

**RIVER VALE BOARD OF EDUCATION**  
**River Vale, New Jersey 07675**  
**REGULAR MEETING**  
**ROBERGE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL GYM**  
**SEPTEMBER 14, 2021**  
**MINUTES**

**CALL TO ORDER: 7:00 P.M.**

**Mrs. Waldes called the Meeting to order at 7:00 P.M.** In accordance with the Open Public Meetings Act, Chapter 231, the Laws of 1975, notice of this meeting has been sent to all school offices, officially designated newspapers, filed with the Township Clerk and posted in the Board of Education Office, forty-eight (48) hours in advance of the meeting.

**MEMBERS PRESENT:** Mrs. Pintarelli, Mr. Puccio, Mr. Rosini, Mr. Schlereth,  
Mrs. Senande, Mrs. Rothenberg, Mrs. Waldes

**MEMBERS ABSENT:** None

**ALSO PRESENT:** Ms. Signore, Superintendent of Schools  
Ms. Ippolito, Business Administrator/Board Secretary  
Mr. Peterson, Director of Buildings & Grounds  
Staff members  
20 members of the public

**FLAG SALUTE**

**BOARD PRESIDENT'S REPORT**

**Mrs. Waldes welcomed everyone to the meeting. She reported that the district held a wonderful forum and excellent program sponsored by West Bergen Mental HealthCare.**

**Mrs. Waldes hoped everyone was enjoying their holidays.**

**COMMITTEE REPORTS**

- **Buildings & Grounds – Mr. Schlereth reported that the Committee met earlier this evening and discussed some of the summer projects that were completed throughout the district such as:**

**ROBERGE ANNEX:**

- Repaired exterior west steps in front of building
- Renovated and painted Business Administrator's office and removed and replaced carpet
- Removed and replaced (5) window air conditioning units
- Painted Superintendent's offices and hallway
- Shampooed carpets throughout building

**ROBERGE SCHOOL:**

- Relocated all belongings for preschool classrooms from Woodside School to Roberge School
- Dealt with flooding damages to gym and several classrooms on two separate occasions

**WOODSIDE SCHOOL:**

- Permanently relocated approximately (7) classrooms within building
- Painted office for new principal
- Set up and moved furniture for Summer Learning Academy and for ESY classrooms and moved same back.

**HOLDRUM SCHOOL:**

- Installed new vinyl composite tile in music rooms 63 and 68

**DISTRICT:**

- Tree removal and pruning at all three locations
- Stripped and waxed all hallways and classrooms in all buildings
- Completed approximately 215 Work Orders from July 1<sup>st</sup> to September 1<sup>st</sup>

**Mr. Schlereth thanked Mr. Peterson and his maintenance and custodial staff for all of their continued hard work and efforts.**

**Mr. Schlereth indicated that the Committee also reviewed plans and drawings from the Architects regarding the three canopy projects at the schools that are expected to be approved and go out to bid by early spring.**

- **Communications & Policies – Mrs. Senande reported that there were second readings being approved at this meeting and the first reading of new policy regarding School Employee Vaccination Requirements was being presented.**
- **Curriculum & Technology – Mrs. Rothenberg advised that the committee would be meeting in two weeks and would have a report afterwards.**
- **Finance – None**
- **Negotiations – Mr. Rosini reported that the RVEA negotiations committee was continuing negotiations and hopefully completing same soon.**
- **Personnel – None**

**COMMITTEE MEETING SCHEDULE**

Date	Time	Committee
September 14, 2021	6:00 PM	Buildings & Grounds
September 28, 2021	6:00 PM	Curriculum & Technology
October 12, 2021	6:00 PM	Communications & Policies
November 16, 2021	6:00 PM	Negotiations
December 14, 2021	6:00 PM	Finance
January 4, 2022	6:00 PM	Finance

**PUBLIC COMMENTS – Agenda Items Only**

**THE RIVER VALE BOARD OF EDUCATION IS committed to encouraging the citizens of River Vale and employees of the River Vale School District to speak directly to board trustees.**

In order to facilitate this communication, residents and employees are requested (1) to sign in before speaking; (2) to maintain an appropriate sense of decorum; and (3) to limit their remarks to no more than five minutes. The Board will also take under advisement the written comments and opinions of non-residents that are submitted to the Board Secretary. Being mindful of its responsibility to maintain the orderly conduct of meetings, the Board retains the right to rule on such matters as the speaker's right to address the Board, as well as the appropriateness of the subject being presented. The Board's decision in such matters is final.

The Board also reminds all members of the public that while it subscribes, without reservation, to the principle of keeping the community informed, by policy and law, it cannot allow public discussion of personnel matters nor can trustees comment on any current or pending litigation. If a matter concerning an employee of the River Vale School District is of interest or concern to a resident, the matter should be referred to the responsible building principal or the Superintendent of Schools by telephone, letter or email.

**Meeting opened to public comments at 7:07 P.M.**

**Public comments:**

**Mr. Matthew De La Rosa, 712 Chalmers Court:** Mr. De La Rosa thanked the Board for adding a hyperlink to the Board policies and stated that he had a concern with the Road Forward policy regarding masks for indoors only and close contacts should not be tied to the local transmission rate.

**Meeting closed to public comments at 7:12 P.M.**

**SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT**

**Mrs. Signore mentioned how wonderful it was to open our doors to all of the students last week. She noted It was a great opening and she had the opportunity to visit each building and speak with staff and students. Students appeared happy and thankful to be back for in-person learning. Teachers were thrilled to have all of their students back with them.**

**Mrs. Signore reminded the public about her September Newsletter to the community where she reported information on the Start Strong Assessment. She explained the assessment is new to River Vale and to most NJ students. This assessment will be used in lieu of the NJ Student Learning Assessment (NJSLA) that was scheduled to be administered last Spring of 2021. Students in grades 4-8 will be tested toward the end of September. She reminded the public that students have not had standardized testing since 2019.**

**Mrs. Signore reported on the School Employee Vaccination mandate which was on the agenda. She explained that this requirement mandates all covered workers to prove vaccination status or submit to frequent and ongoing testing. The requirement is 1x per week of testing at a minimum.**

Finally, Mrs. Signore reminded the public about the Meet the Expert night and to read the October newsletter which will contain more details regarding this virtual event.

**BOARD SECRETARY’S REPORT**

Ms. Ippolito welcomed everyone and hoped that everyone’s start of the school year was a good one.

**GENERAL RESOLUTIONS**

**G1. MOTION BY Mrs. Senande SECONDED BY Mrs. Pintarelli  
BE IT RESOLVED BY THE RIVER VALE BOARD OF EDUCATION that the Board, upon recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, approves the Minutes from the August 31, 2021 Board Meeting.**

	Mrs. Pintarelli	Mr. Puccio	Mr. Rosini	Mrs. Rothenberg	Mr. Schlereth	Mrs. Senande	Mrs. Waldes
AYE	√	√		√		√	√
NAY							
ABSENT							
ABSTAINED			√		√		

**G2. MOTION BY Mrs. Senande SECONDED BY Mrs. Pintarelli  
BE IT RESOLVED BY THE RIVER VALE BOARD OF EDUCATION that the Board, upon recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, approves the Closed Session Minutes from the August 31, 2021 Board Meeting.**

	Mrs. Pintarelli	Mr. Puccio	Mr. Rosini	Mrs. Rothenberg	Mr. Schlereth	Mrs. Senande	Mrs. Waldes
AYE	√	√		√		√	√
NAY							
ABSENT							
ABSTAINED			√		√		

**G3. MOTION BY Mrs. Senande SECONDED BY Mrs. Pintarelli  
BE IT RESOLVED BY THE RIVER VALE BOARD OF EDUCATION that the Board, upon recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, approves the first reading and revisions of the following new/revised River Vale Board of Education Policies and Regulations: (Policies & Regulations First Reading)**

<u>Policy #</u>	<u>Policy Title</u>	<u>New/Revised</u>	<u>1st Reading</u>	<u>2nd Reading</u>
P1648.13	School Employee Vaccination Requirements	New	Sept 14, 2021	

	Mrs. Pintarelli	Mr. Puccio	Mr. Rosini	Mrs. Rothenberg	Mr. Schlereth	Mrs. Senande	Mrs. Waldes
AYE	√	√	√	√	√	√	√
NAY							
ABSENT							
ABSTAINED							

**G4. MOTION BY Mrs. Senande SECONDED BY Mrs. Pintarelli**  
**BE IT RESOLVED BY THE RIVER VALE BOARD OF EDUCATION** that the Board, upon recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, **approves the second reading and revisions of the following new/revised River Vale Board of Education Policies and Regulations: ([Policies & Regulations Second Reading](#))**

Policy/Reg #	Policy Title	New/Revised	1st Reading	2nd Reading
P1648.11	The Road Forward COVID-19-Health and Safety	New	Aug. 31, 2021	Sept. 14, 2021
	Comprehensive Health and Physical Education	Revised	Aug. 31, 2021	Sept. 14, 2021
P2467	Surrogate Parents and Resource Family Parents	Revised	Aug. 31, 2021	Sept. 14, 2021
P & R 3223	Evaluation of Administrators, Excluding Principals, Vice Principals and Assistant Principals	Revised	Aug. 31, 2021	Sept. 14, 2021
P5111	Eligibility of Resident/Nonresident Students	Revised	Aug. 31, 2021	Sept. 14, 2021
P5116	Education of Homeless Children	Revised	Aug. 31, 2021	Sept. 14, 2021
P6115.01	Federal Awards/Funds Internal Controls-Allowability of Costs	New	Aug. 31, 2021	Sept. 14, 2021
P6115.02	Federal Awards/Funds Internal Controls-Mandatory Disclosures	New	Aug. 31, 2021	Sept. 14, 2021
P6115.03	Federal Awards/Funds Internal Controls-Conflict of Interest	New	Aug. 31, 2021	Sept. 14, 2021
P6311	Contracts for Goods or Services Funded By Federal Grants	Revised	Aug. 31, 2021	Sept. 14, 2021
P & R 7432	Eye Protection	Revised	Aug. 31, 2021	Sept. 14, 2021
P8420	Emergency and Crisis Situations	Revised	Aug. 31, 2021	Sept. 14, 2021
R8420.1	Fire and Fire Drills	Revised	Aug. 31, 2021	Sept. 14, 2021
P8540	School Nutrition Programs	Revised	Aug. 31, 2021	Sept. 14, 2021
P8600	Student Transportation	Revised	Aug. 31, 2021	Sept. 14, 2021

	Mrs. Pintarelli	Mr. Puccio	Mr. Rosini	Mrs. Rothenberg	Mr. Schlereth	Mrs. Senande	Mrs. Waldes
AYE	√	√	√	√	√	√	√
NAY							
ABSENT							
ABSTAINED							

**BUSINESS RESOLUTIONS**

**B1. MOTION BY Mrs. Rothenberg SECONDED BY Mr. Rosini**  
**BE IT RESOLVED BY THE RIVER VALE BOARD OF EDUCATION** that the Board, upon recommendation of the School Business Administrator/Board Secretary,

retroactively approves the Financial Report of the School Business Administrator/ Board Secretary and the Treasurer of School Monies for the month ending July 31, 2021 in the following balances:

Fund 10	-	\$ 8,222,914.12
Fund 20	-	\$ .58
Fund 30	-	\$ 3,450,564.40
Fund 40	-	\$ .39
<b>Total</b>		<b>\$11,673,479.49</b>

	Mrs. Pintarelli	Mr. Puccio	Mr. Rosini	Mrs. Rothenberg	Mr. Schlereth	Mrs. Senande	Mrs. Waldes
AYE	√	√	√	√	√	√	√
NAY							
ABSENT							
ABSTAINED							

**B2. MOTION BY Mrs. Rothenberg SECONDED BY Mr. Rosini**  
**BE IT RESOLVED BY THE RIVER VALE BOARD OF EDUCATION** that the Board, upon recommendation of the School Business Administrator /Board Secretary, retroactively approves the adoption of the monthly certification(s) of Major Budgetary Account and Fund Status as follows:

**WHEREAS**, the Board of Education has accepted and reviewed financial reports for the period ending **July 31, 2021** including the Report of the Secretary, A-148, and the Secretary’s certification; and

**WHEREAS**, the Board has received and reviewed financial reports issued by the Business Administrator;

**WHEREAS**, the Board has had consultations with the appropriate school administrators;

**THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that members of the Board of Education do hereby certify that to the best of our knowledge, no major accounts appear to be overextended in violation of N.J.A.C. 6A:23-2.11(c)4, and that sufficient funds are available to meet the district board of education’s financial obligations for the remainder of the year.

	Mrs. Pintarelli	Mr. Puccio	Mr. Rosini	Mrs. Rothenberg	Mr. Schlereth	Mrs. Senande	Mrs. Waldes
AYE	√	√	√	√	√	√	√
NAY							
ABSENT							
ABSTAINED							

**B3. MOTION BY Mrs. Rothenberg SECONDED BY Mr. Rosini  
 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE RIVER VALE BOARD OF EDUCATION that the Board, upon recommendation of the School Business Administrator, **retroactively approves the revised bills list dated August 31, 2021 as follows:****

Fund 10 – General Fund	-	\$	0.00
Fund 10 – Voided Checks	-	\$	0.00
Fund 20 – Special Revenue	-	\$	0.00
Fund 20 - Voided Checks	-	\$	0.00
Fund 30 – Capital Projects	-	\$	0.00
Fund 40 – Debt Service	-	\$	0.00
Unemployment Trust Acct.	-	\$	0.00
Fund 60 – Milk Account	-	\$	0.00
Fund 65 – Enterprise Fund	-	\$	0.00
Fund 90 -Trust & Agency	-	\$	0.00
Fund 91 – Merchants Account-		\$	<u>62.85</u>
<b>Total</b>		\$	<b>62.85</b>

	Mrs. Pintarelli	Mr. Puccio	Mr. Rosini	Mrs. Rothenberg	Mr. Schlereth	Mrs. Senande	Mrs. Waldes
AYE	√	√	√	√	√	√	√
NAY							
ABSENT							
ABSTAINED							

**B4. MOTION BY Mrs. Rothenberg SECONDED BY Mr. Rosini  
 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE RIVER VALE BOARD OF EDUCATION that the Board, upon recommendation of the School Business Administrator, **retroactively approves the purchase orders and adjustments for period dated August 31, 2021 in the amount of \$648,833.58.****

	Mrs. Pintarelli	Mr. Puccio	Mr. Rosini	Mrs. Rothenberg	Mr. Schlereth	Mrs. Senande	Mrs. Waldes
AYE	√	√	√	√	√	√	√
NAY							
ABSENT							
ABSTAINED							

**B5. MOTION BY Mrs. Rothenberg SECONDED BY Mr. Rosini  
 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE RIVER VALE BOARD OF EDUCATION that the Board, upon recommendation of the School Business Administrator, **retroactively approves the transfer of funds for period ending August 31, 2021 in the amount of \$5,990.00 as set forth below:****

**Transfer of Funds  
Period Ending August 31, 2021**

<b>T143</b>	FROM	11-000-213-320-10-11-043	PURCH PROF SERV/PSYCH EXAMS	<b>-5840.00</b>
	TO	11-000-213-320-10-18-043	PURCH PROF SERV/CLINICAL	<b>5840.00</b>
<b>T146</b>	FROM	11-000-213-320-10-11-043	PURCH PROF SERV/PSYCH EXAMS	<b>-150.00</b>
	TO	11-000-213-320-10-18-043	PURCH PROF SERV/CLINICAL	<b>150.00</b>
	<b>TOTALS:</b>			
	<b>FROM:</b>			<b>-5990.00</b>
	<b>TO:</b>			<b>5990.00</b>

Note: Transaction Date: 8/31/2021

	Mrs. Pintarelli	Mr. Puccio	Mr. Rosini	Mrs. Rothenberg	Mr. Schlereth	Mrs. Senande	Mrs. Waldes
<b>AYE</b>	√	√	√	√	√	√	√
<b>NAY</b>							
<b>ABSENT</b>							
<b>ABSTAINED</b>							

- B6. MOTION BY Mrs. Rothenberg SECONDED BY Mr. Rosini  
BE IT RESOLVED BY THE RIVER VALE BOARD OF EDUCATION that the Board, upon recommendation of the School Business Administrator, approves the bills list dated September 14, 2021 as follows:**

Fund 10 – General Fund	-	\$291,497.15
Fund 10 – Voided Checks	-	\$ 0.00
Fund 20 – Special Revenue	-	\$ 36,264.19
Fund 20 - Voided Checks	-	\$ 0.00
Fund 30 – Capital Projects	-	\$ 0.00
Fund 40 – Debt Service	-	\$ 0.00
Unemployment Trust Acct.	-	\$ 0.00
Fund 60 – Milk Account	-	\$ 0.00
Fund 65 – Enterprise Fund	-	\$ 0.00
Fund 90 -Trust & Agency	-	\$ 0.00
Fund 91 – Merchants Account-		\$ 0.00
<b>Total</b>		<b>\$327,761.34</b>

	Mrs. Pintarelli	Mr. Puccio	Mr. Rosini	Mrs. Rothenberg	Mr. Schlereth	Mrs. Senande	Mrs. Waldes
<b>AYE</b>	√	√	√	√	√	√	√
<b>NAY</b>							
<b>ABSENT</b>							
<b>ABSTAINED</b>							



- B7. MOTION BY Mrs. Rothenberg SECONDED BY Mr. Rosini  
 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE RIVER VALE BOARD OF EDUCATION that the Board, upon recommendation of the School Business Administrator, **approves the purchase orders and adjustments for period dated September 14, 2021 in the amount of \$4,530.11.****

	Mrs. Pintarelli	Mr. Puccio	Mr. Rosini	Mrs. Rothenberg	Mr. Schlereth	Mrs. Senande	Mrs. Waldes
AYE	√	√	√	√	√	√	√
NAY							
ABSENT							
ABSTAINED							

- B8. MOTION BY Mrs. Rothenberg SECONDED BY Mr. Rosini  
 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE RIVER VALE BOARD OF EDUCATION that the Board, upon recommendation of the School Business Administrator, **approves the following Travel and Conferences for the staff indicated below for professional improvement or development, for the period July 1, 2021 through June 30, 2022:****

Employee	Location/ Dept.	Conference	Location	Date(s)	Cost
Erin Rudolph	Holdrum	Regional New Staff Mentoring	PVRHS, Montvale	10/26,2021 2/11/2022 4/8/2022	\$0.00
Alyson Puzzo	Holdrum	HIB Law Update	NJPSA/Legal webinar	10/5/2021	\$125.00
Debbie Chinnici	Holdrum	HIB Law Update	NJPSA/Legal webinar	10/5/2021	\$125.00
Thomas Fahey	Woodside	Regional New Staff Mentoring	PVRHS, Montvale	10/26/2021	\$0.00
Kaitlyn Bruno	Woodside	Regional New Staff Mentoring	PVRHS, Montvale	10/26,2021 2/11/2022 4/8/2022	\$0.00
Jonathan Fritog	Woodside	Regional New Staff Mentoring	PVRHS, Montvale	9/30/2021	\$0.00

	Mrs. Pintarelli	Mr. Puccio	Mr. Rosini	Mrs. Rothenberg	Mr. Schlereth	Mrs. Senande	Mrs. Waldes
AYE	√	√	√	√	√	√	√
NAY							
ABSENT							
ABSTAINED							

**PERSONNEL RESOLUTIONS**

- P1. MOTION BY Mr. Puccio SECONDED BY Mrs. Senande  
 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE RIVER VALE BOARD OF EDUCATION that the Board, upon recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, **approves an unpaid leave of absence for Kaushal Pandya, a Woodside Library Aide, on September 13, 2021 through September 15, 2021, for a total of three (3) unpaid days.****

	Mrs. Pintarelli	Mr. Puccio	Mr. Rosini	Mrs. Rothenberg	Mr. Schlereth	Mrs. Senande	Mrs. Waldes
AYE	√	√	√	√	√	√	√
NAY							
ABSENT							
ABSTAINED							

**P2. MOTION BY Mr. Puccio SECONDED BY Mrs. Senande**  
**BE IT RESOLVED BY THE RIVER VALE BOARD OF EDUCATION** that the Board, upon recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, **approves the following district Substitute(s) for the 2021-2022 school year, pending criminal history review, as set forth below:**

Employee	Position	Daily/Hourly Rate
Suzanne Keohane	SpEd Aide	\$16.50 per hour

	Mrs. Pintarelli	Mr. Puccio	Mr. Rosini	Mrs. Rothenberg	Mr. Schlereth	Mrs. Senande	Mrs. Waldes
AYE	√	√	√	√	√	√	√
NAY							
ABSENT							
ABSTAINED							

**P3. MOTION BY Mr. Puccio SECONDED BY Mrs. Senande**  
**BE IT RESOLVED BY THE RIVER VALE BOARD OF EDUCATION** that the Board, upon recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, **approves the appointment of the following district Special Education Aides for the 2021-2022 school, pending completion of the Criminal History Review, as set forth below:**

Employee	Location / Dept.	Position	Number of Days	Hours Per Day	Step	Hourly Rate	Account No.
Wendy Augustensen	HMS	SpEd Aide	5	5.75	1	\$16.50	11-000-217-106-20-11-004

	Mrs. Pintarelli	Mr. Puccio	Mr. Rosini	Mrs. Rothenberg	Mr. Schlereth	Mrs. Senande	Mrs. Waldes
AYE	√	√	√	√	√	√	√
NAY							
ABSENT							
ABSTAINED							

**P4. MOTION BY Mr. Puccio SECONDED BY Mrs. Senande**  
**BE IT RESOLVED BY THE RIVER VALE BOARD OF EDUCATION** that the Board, upon recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, **approves the following student intern placements for the 2021-2022 school year, pending criminal history review, as set forth below:**

Name	School	Type	Teacher	College/School
Jessica Stinson	CST	Practicum Teacher	Christine Casbar	Fairleigh Dickinson University

	Mrs. Pintarelli	Mr. Puccio	Mr. Rosini	Mrs. Rothenberg	Mr. Schlereth	Mrs. Senande	Mrs. Waldes
AYE	√	√	√	√	√	√	√
NAY							
ABSENT							
ABSTAINED							

- P5. MOTION BY Mr. Puccio SECONDED BY Mrs. Senande**  
**BE IT RESOLVED BY THE RIVER VALE BOARD OF EDUCATION** that the Board, upon recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, **advises pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:16-17, 18A:16-17.1 and 52:14-17.46.14, that unless an employee waives health insurance coverage, the employee shall contribute to the cost of their health insurance coverage in the amounts required by law, or any applicable collective negotiations agreement, whether said contributions are a percentage of the health insurance premium based upon their salary range, or a percentage of their annual base salary, as determined by the health insurance plan in which the employee is enrolled.**

	Mrs. Pintarelli	Mr. Puccio	Mr. Rosini	Mrs. Rothenberg	Mr. Schlereth	Mrs. Senande	Mrs. Waldes
AYE	√	√	√	√	√	√	√
NAY							
ABSENT							
ABSTAINED							

- P6. MOTION BY Mr. Puccio SECONDED BY Mrs. Senande**  
**BE IT RESOLVED BY THE RIVER VALE BOARD OF EDUCATION** that the Board, upon recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, **approves ESS Northeast, LLC, with all of their properly certified employees, to provide substitute teacher, secretary and substitute aide services to the district for the 2021-2022 school year.**

	Mrs. Pintarelli	Mr. Puccio	Mr. Rosini	Mrs. Rothenberg	Mr. Schlereth	Mrs. Senande	Mrs. Waldes
AYE	√	√	√	√	√	√	√
NAY							
ABSENT							
ABSTAINED							

- P7. MOTION BY Mr. Puccio SECONDED BY Mrs. Senande**  
**BE IT RESOLVED BY THE RIVER VALE BOARD OF EDUCATION** that the Board, upon recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, **approves Northern Region Educational Services Commission with all of their properly certified**

**employees, to provide substitute aide services to the district for the 2021-2022 school year.**

	<b>Mrs. Pintarelli</b>	<b>Mr. Puccio</b>	<b>Mr. Rosini</b>	<b>Mrs. Rothenberg</b>	<b>Mr. Schlereth</b>	<b>Mrs. Senande</b>	<b>Mrs. Waldes</b>
<b>AYE</b>	√	√	√	√	√	√	√
<b>NAY</b>							
<b>ABSENT</b>							
<b>ABSTAINED</b>							

**PUBLIC COMMENTS – GENERAL ITEMS**

**THE RIVER VALE BOARD OF EDUCATION IS** committed to encouraging the citizens of River Vale and employees of the River Vale School District to speak directly to board trustees. In order to facilitate this communication, residents and employees are requested (1) to sign in before speaking; (2) to maintain an appropriate sense of decorum; and (3) to limit their remarks to no more than five minutes. The Board will also take under advisement the written comments and opinions of non-residents that are submitted to the Board Secretary. Being mindful of its responsibility to maintain the orderly conduct of meetings, the Board retains the right to rule on such matters as the speaker’s right to address the Board, as well as the appropriateness of the subject being presented. The Board’s decision in such matters is final.

The Board also reminds all members of the public that while it subscribes, without reservation, to the principle of keeping the community informed, by policy and law, it cannot allow public discussion of personnel matters nor can trustees comment on any current or pending litigation. If a matter concerning an employee of the River Vale School District is of interest or concern to a resident, the matter should be referred to the responsible building principal or the Superintendent of Schools by telephone, letter or email.

**Meeting opened to public comments at 7:20 P.M.**

**Public comments:**

**Mr. Arthur White, 641 Cobh Road:** Mr. White mentioned that he had to leave the last Board meeting early however understood that a discussion took place regarding broadcasting the Board Meetings and one of the concerns was cost.

**Mr. John Puccio, Board Trustee** responded that he expressed at the last Board Meeting that his personal concern was that in person meetings are best so that there is no room for misinterpretation.

**Ms. Jennifer Falkoff, 558 Wittich Terrace:** Ms. Falkoff stated the last time she reached out to West Bergen Mental Health for her child, they asked for her insurance. Is that what should occur?

**Ms. Signore, Superintendent of Schools** responded that there are different levels of support and services that West Bergen Mental Health is contracted for. The first step should your child have an issue is to go through the school level guidance counselor. There is also a warm line available and that information is on the District website.

**Ms. Luana Lustberg, 221 Rockland Avenue:** Ms. Lustberg asked what the definition of excessive heat is and when can children unmask. Who is monitoring the classroom temperatures? Why can't children unmask while sitting at their desks?

**Ms. Signore, Superintendent of Schools** responded that three (3) days in a row with temperatures about the normal temperatures is the definition. That doesn't always work for every classroom based on many factors. Administration is monitoring the classroom temperatures. The executive order does not allow for that.

**Ms. Diana Nimo Merida, 327 Perry Place:** Ms. Nimo Merida thanked the PTA for the lunch program but many districts participate in the National School Lunch Program why doesn't River Vale?

**Ms. Signore, Superintendent of Schools** responded that River Vale has historically not participated in the National School Lunch Program (NSLP) as there has not been a need. The NSLP was established for students in need. The District can look into the program, however, it will not be able to be implemented overnight.

**Ms. Kristie Levine, 577 Egan Terrace:** Ms. Levine stated that many surrounding districts participate in the NSLP and receiving free lunches.

**Ms. Signore, Superintendent of Schools** responded that the reason other districts were aware of the free lunches were that they already participated in the NSLP.

**Ms. Katie Moran, 208 Fondiller Street:** Ms. Moran asked if the district has considered using tents?

**Ms. Signore, Superintendent of Schools** responded that the goal is to get the kids outside as much as possible. We have outdoor plans and need to be mindful of security as well.

**Mr. Ed Salib, 562 Faletti Way:** Mr. Salib asked why there were still desk shields being used and can in school transmissions be added to the count?

**Ms. Signore, Superintendent of Schools** responded that the desk shields were only being used in areas that social distancing could not be maintained. The in school transmission can be added to the count on the website.

**Mr. Matthew De La Rosa, 712 Chalmers Court:** Mr. De La Rosa advocated for live streaming Board Meetings. How is the school promoting vaccines?

**Ms. Signore, Superintendent of Schools** responded that the District is just getting information out to the Community regarding vaccinations.

**Ms. Amanda Mendez, 600 Echo Glen Avenue:** Ms. Mendez asked if there was anything that could be done about the drop off times between all of the schools including the High School. Ms. Mendez also asked how testing out.

**Ms. Signore, Superintendent of Schools** responded that the District would look into it.

**Ms. Elisha Fishbein, 403 Faletti Circle:** Ms. Fishbein asked if the District could look into subscription bussing for next year?

**Ms. Ippolito, School Business Administrator** responded that this could be looked into if the Board chooses to.

**Ms. Jennifer Falkoff, 558 Wittich Terrace:** Ms. Falkoff inquired about the District’s need to put together a plan by 9/13 for testing.

**Ms. Signore, Superintendent of Schools** responded that the District is required to have proof of vaccination or test. The District did complete a survey to participate in a State coordinated testing program.

**Meeting closed to public comments at 8:28 P.M.**

**OLD BUSINESS**

**None**

**NEW BUSINESS**

**NB1. MOTION BY Mrs. Rothenberg SECONDED BY Mr. Rosini**

**BE IT RESOLVED BY THE RIVER VALE BOARD OF EDUCATION** that the Board, upon recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, approves the appointment of additional custodial staff for each school for the 2021-2022 school year to assist with cleaning and lunchtime operations.

	<b>Mrs. Pintarelli</b>	<b>Mr. Puccio</b>	<b>Mr. Rosini</b>	<b>Mrs. Rothenberg</b>	<b>Mr. Schlereth</b>	<b>Mrs. Senande</b>	<b>Mrs. Waldes</b>
<b>AYE</b>	√	√	√	√	√	√	√
<b>NAY</b>							
<b>ABSENT</b>							
<b>ABSTAINED</b>							

**MOTION TO ENTER CLOSED SESSION**

**MOTION BY Mrs. Pintarelli SECONDED BY Mr. Rosini**

**WHEREAS**, pursuant to N.J.S.A. 10:4-12(b), the Board of Education of the Township of River Vale may exclude the public from that portion of a public meeting at which the Board discusses any of the matters described at N.J.S.A. 10:4-12(b) (1)-(9);

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the Board of Education shall forthwith enter into closed session to discuss matters relating to:

☒ 1. Any matter which by provision of law is rendered confidential or excluded from the requirements of subsection A of N.J.S.A. 10:4-12, specifically, the following matter:

- HIB Appeal

**NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS RESOLVED**, that the aforesaid subjects shall be discussed in closed session by this Board of Education and administrative staff, and the minutes of said closed session discussion will be made available to the public when the reasons for the non-disclosure in accordance with the Open Public Meetings Act no longer exist.

**Meeting closed to the public at 8:32 P.M.**

**MOTION BY Mrs. Pintarelli SECONDED BY Mr. Rosini  
that the September 14, 2021 Closed Session Meeting be reopened to Regular Session Meeting at 10:20 P.M.**

**ADJOURNMENT**

**MOTION BY Mrs. Pintarelli SECONDED BY Mr. Rosini  
that the September 14, 2021 Regular Meeting be adjourned at 10:21 P.M.**

Respectfully submitted,



Kelly Ippolito  
Board Secretary/School Business Administrator