

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING  
BOARD OF SCHOOL DIRECTORS**

**APRIL 16, 2018**

**CALL TO ORDER**

Dr. Maureen McClure, President, called the Regular Meeting of the Riverview Board of School Directors to order at 7:06 p.m., April 16, 2018, in the Auditorium of the Tenth Street Elementary School.

**VISITORS PRESENT**

Dr. Monroe, Mr. Rizzo, Mr. Pallatto, Mr. Libell, Mr. Hemingray, Ms. Drabicki-Bell, Ms. Goldberg-DeLeo, Ms. Luther, Ms. Kline, Mr. and Mrs. Huber, Mr. and Mrs. Dull, Ms. Wilton, Ms. Shoop, Ms. Abraham, Ms. Harden, Ms. McFadden, Ms. Hemingray, Mr. Flatley, Mr. Saxon, Mr. Fulton

**ROLL CALL**

Present: Members: Mrs. Ashbaugh, Mrs. Aughenbaugh, Mr. DiClaudio, Mr. DiPietro, Dr. Loeffler, Mr. Nehlsen, Mr. Tillman, Dr. McClure; Christina Lane, Solicitor; Dr. DiNinno, Supt.; Ms. Good, Business Manager; Mrs. Tamburro, Recording Secretary  
Absent: Mrs. Hurt-Robinson

**MINUTES APPROVED  
TREASURER'S REPORTS/  
TAX COLLECTORS  
REPORTS/PAYMENT OF  
BILLS**

Dr. McClure presented the minutes of the Regular Voting Meeting for March 19, 2018, and the Minutes of the Study Session for April 9, 2018. In addition, she presented the Treasurer's Reports for the General Fund for February, 2018; the Scholarship Account for February, 2018; and the Capital Reserve Fund for February, 2018. She then presented the Pa. Municipal delinquent EIT collections for February, 2018, along with the Keystone Collections Group, LST and EIT collections for February and March, 2018, along with approval of General Fund Bills – Fund 10 – in the amount of \$845,834.11. Finally, she presented the Treasurer's Reports for Student Activities for December, 2017, and January and February, 2018, along with Food Services for February, 2018. Mr. DiClaudio moved that these reports be accepted and filed for audit. Mrs. Ashbaugh seconded the motion which passed unanimously.

**PRESIDENT'S REMARKS**

Dr. McClure thanked everyone for coming. She explained that we will be holding two Hearing of Citizens, one at the beginning prior to the motions for approval and one following. She asked that anyone wishing to speak state their name and residency. They will be limited to two minutes with no follow-up.

**HEARING OF CITIZENS**

None

**MOTIONS FOR APPROVAL**

Upon the recommendation of the Finance Committee (J.Nehlsen/D. DiPietro), Mrs. Ashbaugh moved that the following items be approved-

**MOTION 1:**

- The following contracts/agreements:
  - Agreement between the Riverview School District and Adelphoi Education, Inc. for the period July 1, 2018 through June 30, 2019.
  - Classroom rental agreements between the Riverview School District and the Allegheny Intermediate Unit for the operation of the AIU Dart Program during the 2018-2019 school year.
  - Reappointment of the firm Maiello, Brungo, and Maiello as the Riverview School District Solicitor according to their March 8, 2018 proposal.

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Mrs. Aughenbaugh seconded the motion which passed unanimously.

Upon the recommendation of the Education Committee (L. Ashbaugh/J. Hurt-Robinson), Mr. DiPietro moved that the following items be approved-

MOTION 1:

- Acceptance of Malin Eide as a student at Riverview Jr/Sr High School through the placement services of the AFS Intercultural Programs for the 2018-2019 school year pending all required documentation and paperwork.
- Participation in the World Affairs Council of Philadelphia's Global Scholars Program and Certificate issuance.
- The Riverview School District Special Education Plan for the 2018-2019 through 2020-2021 school years.

Mr. Nehlsen seconded the motion which passed unanimously.

Upon the recommendation of the Student Life Committee (A. DiClaudio/L. Ashbaugh), Mr. Nehlsen moved that the following item be approved-

MOTION 1:

- Participation in the Academic Games League of America, Nationals Trip, scheduled for April 27-April 30 in Knoxville, Tennessee, with facilitator Dr. Michael McNally.

Mrs. Aughenbaugh seconded the motion which passed unanimously.

Upon the recommendation of Dr. McClure, Mr. DiClaudio moved that the following Board Governance and Regulations items be approved-

MOTION 1:

- The Eastern Area Schools Joint Committee mail ballot resolution as presented.
- The Eastern Area Schools elected officers ballot as presented.

Dr. Loeffler seconded the motion which passed unanimously.

MOTION 2:

- The following revisions to the Riverview School District Board Policy Manual:  
Third and Final Reading: Policy 210, Medications
- The following revisions to the Riverview School Board Policy Manual:  
First Reading: Policy 105, Curriculum  
Policy 209.1, Food Allergy Management  
Policy 239, Foreign Exchange Students
- Nominate Debra A. Raubenstrauch, Wilkinsburg School District, to serve as School Board Trustee in the Allegheny County School Health Insurance Consortium for a two-year period effective April 30, 2018.

Mrs. Ashbaugh seconded the motion which passed unanimously.

Upon the recommendation of Dr. McClure, Mr. DiClaudio moved that the following personnel items be approved-

MOTION 1:

- Resolution R1718-022 regarding the curtailment and alteration of the educational programs of the Riverview School District resulting in the elimination of professional employee positions and the opening of other professional employee positions.
- Accept, with regret, the resignation of Eileen Ranalli effective July 30, 2018.
- The 2017-2018 Athletic Event Worker Position(s) as detailed below pending any necessary certification and health requirements:

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Amber Bonaroti Volleyball Crowd Control

- Individuals as substitute teachers and paraprofessionals with Precision HR Solutions Inc. for the 2017-2018 school year pending any certification requirements:

Angela Thompson	Paraprofessional
Erin Maples	Elem K-6/Mid Level Math 7-9
Lorraine Free	Paraprofessional
Jessica Wilson	Paraprofessional
Robert VanRheenen	Paraprofessional
Christine Abbye	Chemistry/Physics/General Science
Samantha Braga	Art PK-12

Dr. Loeffler seconded the motion which passed unanimously.

**BUDGET DISCUSSION**

Mr. Nehlsen stated that currently there is an \$839,000.00 gap between revenues and expenditures. Many of the expenditure related items were the result of significant increases in special education, the debt service, and safety. It is not perfect, it is painful. We have to take the list seriously and find a way to optimize everything for our students. Dr. DiNinno indicated that the State mandates special education programming and these services are required for children. Additionally, the District is responsible for paying tuition for special education students placed outside of the district, cyber and charter school student tuition, which is based on the district's current cost per educating a Riverview student, private school transportation, and the PSERS fund as well as other mandates. We need to find a way to offset these expenditures. Over the past few years, we have offset some of these costs. Some examples included things like: rebidding the transportation contract which saved over \$1,000,000 by contracting with a new bus company, and aggressively collected delinquent taxes. Unfortunately there are no more tricks left in the hat. Expenses continue to go up. The only way we can close the gap is through an increase in revenue and/or reductions. Our goal is to provide the best education we can afford. At this point, Ms. Good and Mr. DiPietro reviewed the timeline for the budget. Mr. DiClaudio said that this was a hard list to absorb. We can do only what we can afford and as a Board, we have to think about our responsibilities as a Board. He mentioned that the State funding continues to reduce, and we can't rely on the tax base to do everything. He also mentioned that he agonized over the list, but feels that we need to be responsible. Mrs. Aughenbaugh mentioned that she felt the District should never have been put in this position by the State, not because we have not been responsible, PSERS was not funded properly. Several Board members commented that they were frustrated that the burden is being shifted to the local taxpayer. Mr. Tillman indicated that as our property values have gone up and our wages have gone up a wealth factor has been used to determine less State funding. Although this has been positive, it has also worked against us. He also indicated that as a Board, it is our responsibility to determine the tax levy, and based on the tax levy the board is given an outline of potential cuts. We need to determine the tax levy, debate, and come up with a number for May 7<sup>th</sup>. He indicated that we have a strategic plan and we have to deliver. Dr. Loeffler advised people in attendance to talk to their legislatures and Frank Dermody in an effort to help with State funding. Dr. McClure mentioned that

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the PSERS pension is not a problem we created. She also mentioned that as our property values go up, including Edgewater and River's Edge Developments, our revenue goes down. She also mentioned the State instability and advised everyone to put pressure on the local government representatives and talk to your State legislators.

**SOLICITOR'S REPORT**

Ms. Lane thanked the board for the vote of confidence with their firm. She provided the firm's written report.

**HEARING OF CITIZENS**

Several citizens commented regarding a tax increase, the quality of the school district, and the budget. Other comments included: Conducting a study to assist with the direction of the Strategic Plan; the concern for not raising taxes; our ranking in the County pertaining to taxes; the drawback of high taxes for people moving into the District; concern for bullying in the District; some long-term residents cannot continue to afford tax increases; frustration over the cost of PSERS; great reputation of the school district; encouraging Board to look at long-term needs; the importance of providing a quality education indicating that is why some people move here; cuts should be made to administration and marketing; we can't afford the luxury of an SRO; several compliments regarding the high school staff were made; budgeting decisions are tough; arts and music make us special; some cuts and a tax increase were recommended; we need to trust the decision of the administration; there are less young families moving into Verona; there needs to be a balance between the retired and young families; consider asking the boosters to pay for things; look at the PTO's and booster groups for fundraising efforts. Several people indicated they would volunteer their services to help cut costs. Dr. McClure encouraged everyone to contact Mr. Dermody's office.

**ADJOURNMENT**

Mr. DiPietro moved that the meeting be adjourned. Meeting adjourned at 8:22 pm.