

A Regular Meeting of the Riverside School Board was held on the above date in the Riverside Administration Office with President Armstrong presiding and the following members present: Laura Kobeski, Mary Antoniaci McHugh, Brandi Luckasavage, Tara Meredick, Dan Nenish, Linda Joyce, and Anthony Mattioli (via telephone). Absent: Barbara Fedor.

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

AUDIENCE QUESTIONS/COMMENTS ON ANY AGENDA ITEMS - None

Mrs. Armstrong stated that Mr. Brennan would address the audience regarding their concerns over the crosswalk/speeding issue. Mr. Brennan stated that safety is more important before learning takes place. There is a shared responsibility between the borough, state, and the school district. A \$104,000 Greenways Grant has been awarded, which will be used, in part, for crosswalk improvements. The crossing guard position has been posted in the past and most recently since August 2023. Metz employees will be trained as crossing guards. We will have more state-approved signage near the crosswalk, and an increased police presence. Mr. Brennan will be meeting with Penn DOT on Friday. Taylor borough residents, Ronald Gallagher, Deb Pon, Wendy Goetz, Eugene Gallagher, Joe Labrosky, and Megan Derenick all shared concerns regarding the crosswalk and the speeding traffic.

Motion by Mrs. Meredick, seconded by Ms. Antoniaci McHugh to approve minutes of 4 December 2023 Reorganization Meeting and 4 December 2023 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 Ms. Kobeski to approve payrolls of 8 December 2023 of \$409,002.59 and 22 December 2023 of \$483,168.95. Roll call vote: All in favor.

Motion by Mrs. Meredith, seconded by Ms. Kobeski to approve estimated payrolls of 5 January 2024 of \$405,000 and 19 January 2024 of \$410,000. Roll call vote: All in favor.

Motion by Mr. Nenish, seconded by Mrs. Meredith to approve Treasurer's Report for November 2023 and the unreconciled balances of December 31, 2023. Roll call vote: All in favor.

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

Motion by Mrs. Meredith, seconded by Ms. Antoniaci McHugh to approve the Fee Agreement for Attorney Raymond C. Rinaldi II, District Solicitor, to include an hourly rate of \$120 for the period January 2024 through December 2024. This is in addition to the retainer fee of \$750.00 per month, or \$9,000.00 annually, approved at the 4 December 2023 Reorganization Meeting. Roll call vote: YES, Kobeski, Antoniaci McHugh, Luckasavage, Meredith, Nenish, Joyce, Mattioli, and Armstrong.

Motion by Ms. Antoniaci McHugh, seconded by Ms. Kobeski to adopt the Resolution recognizing January as National School Board Recognition Month. Roll call vote: All in favor.

Motion by Ms. Kobeski, seconded by Mrs. Luckasavage to approve the following Use of Facilities Request(s): **SCHOOL-SPONSORED EVENT(S):** REW & REE Student Councils – Student Night at Riverside Vikings Basketball Game – High School Gym - January 25, 2024*; Art Club – Valentine’s Paint Night Fundraiser – High School Commons – February 9, 2024*; Riverside Touchdown Club – Award Ceremony/Dinner – High School Auditorium and Cafeteria – February 10, 2024*; JT Yarem – Youth Mental Health First Aid Training – Riverside Elementary East Library – February 5, 2024 and February 12, 2024*. **NON-SCHOOL SPONSORED EVENT(S):** Velez Studio of Dance – High School Auditorium – Dance Recital – May 29 & 30, 2024. 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 Mr. Nenish, seconded by Mrs. Meredick to post for the following coaches effective the 2024-2025 school year at stipends established as per the Collective Bargaining Agreement: Football Head Coach, Boys’ Golf Head Coach, Girls’ Golf Head Coach, Fall Girls’ Tennis Head Coach, Soccer Head Coach, Cross Country Head Coach, and Unit Advisor. Roll call vote: All in favor.

Motion by Ms. Kobeski, seconded by Mrs. Meredick to approve the Letter of Intent to Retire from Christopher Feerrar, Secondary Teacher, effective June 20, 2024. Roll call vote: All in favor.

Motion by Mrs. Meredick, seconded by Mr. Nenish to approve the Letter of Intent to Resign from Erin Duffy, Girls' Junior High Basketball Coach, effective December 26, 2023. Roll call vote: All in favor.

Motion by Mr. Nenish, seconded by Mrs. Meredick to appoint Josh Godlewski as Girls' Junior High Basketball Coach effective the 2023-2024 school year at a pro-rated stipend as outlined in the Collective Bargaining Agreement. Roll call vote: All in favor.

Motion by Ms. Antoniaci McHugh, seconded by Ms. Kobeski to accept the Letter of Intent to Resign from Jacob Herber, Licensed Professional Counselor, effective January 5, 2024. Roll call vote: All in favor.

Motion by Mrs. Meredick, seconded by Mr. Nenish to appoint Jillian Mishko Evans as Licensed Professional Counselor. This position is based on the remaining term of the grant. Roll call vote: All in favor.

Motion by Mr. Nenish, seconded by Mrs. Meredick to approve Mark Malczynski as a Krise bus driver for the 2023-2024 school year. Proper clearances, insurance, and paperwork will be processed through Krise. Krise should notify Scott Pentasuglio if any clearances are in question. Krise will also provide Riverside School District access to the clearances of their drivers. Roll call vote: All in favor.

Motion by Mrs. Joyce, seconded by Mr. Nenish to amend the Regional Wide Area Network Service Order with Northeastern Pennsylvania RWAN E-Rate Consortium for services through June 30, 2028, to increase Riverside's Internet and bandwidth from 1 GB to 10 GB. This is an annual increase and is not to exceed \$3,517.27 starting with the July 2024-2025 school year.

Roll call vote: All in favor.

Motion by Mr. Nenish, seconded by Mrs. Meredick to issue a RFP for utility services at the pole barn. Roll call vote: All in favor.

Motion by Mrs. Meredick, seconded by Mr. Nenish to accept the Letter of Intent to Retire from Kelly Davis, Elementary Teacher, effective September 27, 2024. Roll call vote: All in favor.

Motion by Ms. Kobeski, seconded by Mrs. Meredick to post for an Elementary Teacher effective the 2024-2025 school year. Roll call vote: All in favor.

Motion by Mrs. Joyce, seconded by Mrs. Luckasavage to approve the Leave Request of Samantha Talerico, Aide, as outlined in her letter on file in the Superintendent's Office. Roll call vote: All in favor.

Business Manager's Report – Mr. Drazdowski expressed his appreciation to the Board as January is National School Board Recognition Month. He reported that new boilers will be installed at East and the High School. Grant funds were used for the new boilers. He also gave an update on the new pole barn at the track field.

Solicitor's Report - None

Academic Affairs Committee - None

NEIU 19 - Mrs. Joyce reported on educational trainings the NEIU held at various school districts.

Athletic Committee – Mr. Nenish mentioned that the 2024-2025 fall coaching positions will be posted. Riverside's sports teams have been successful this year. He also talked about the pole barn at the track field.

Facilities Committee – Mr. Nenish reported on completed and on-going projects.

Finance Committee – Ms. Antoniaci McHugh thanked the Bill Drazdowski and Paul Brennan for their work on grant writing in 2023. Work is being done on health insurance renewals and the budget.

Student Activities Liaison (ad hoc) – Mrs. Meredick reported on the successful revamping of the high school clubs.

Board Policy Committee – Mrs. Armstrong stated that a new Board Policy Committee was being established and asked Mr. Mattioli to chair this committee with Ms. Kobeski and Mrs. Luckasavage being members.

Superintendent's Report – Mr. Brennan thanked the Board Members for their work as January is School Board Recognition Month. He reported on the accomplishments of retiring teachers Christopher Feerrar and Kelly Davis.

OLD BUSINESS - None

OPEN – Joe Labrosky, Taylor thanked the Board Members for their work on the Board. He also

Thanked Ms. Antoniaci, Mr. Drazdowski, and Mr. Brennan for their grant writing efforts.

Jose Sosa, Moosic introduced himself to the Board and stated he will be applying for the Soccer

Head Coach position. Michael McKeefery, Moosic thanked the Board on behalf of the Viking

Elf Program. He recognized Gilda Aniska as being one of the first responders to the crosswalk

accident. Both Gilda Aniska and Kelly McKeefery assisted that morning. Eugene Gallagher,

Taylor, stated how nice SKOLastic Commons area is and that he would like the Board to

consider holding their monthly meeting there.

Motion by Mrs. Meredick, seconded by Mrs. Luckasavage to adjourn. Roll call vote: All in

favor.