

RIVER VALE BOARD OF EDUCATION
River Vale, New Jersey 07675
REGULAR MEETING
Roberge Annex
September 8, 2020 VIRTUAL MINUTES

Ms. Ippolito welcomed everyone to the virtual board meeting and explained how the meeting would run.

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 VIA

TELEPHONE: Mrs. Pintarelli, Mr. Rosini, Mrs. Rothenberg,
Mr. Schlereth, Mrs. Senande, Mrs. Waldes

MEMBERS ABSENT: Mr. Puccio

ALSO PRESENT: Dr. Alvarez, Interim Superintendent of Schools
Ms. Ippolito, Business Administrator/Board Secretary
Ms. Dowling, Supervisor of Curriculum & Instruction
Mr. Peterson, Director of Buildings and Grounds
43 members of the public and teaching staff

FLAG SALUTE

BOARD PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Mrs. Waldes read the following prepared remarks:

Welcome back and thank you for "Zooming-In" tonight!

First, our Professional Development went very well last Tuesday and Wednesday. Teacher and Teachers Aides had a chance to learn various platforms and programs.

Second, the orientation days last week provided an opportunity for remote-learners, kindergartners and new students, to meet their teachers and in some case their classmates.

Finally, I am very excited to announce RULER has been adopted. This system is a high impact and fast-effective approach to understanding and mastering emotions. Ruler has been shown to reduce stress, improve school climate and enhance academic achievement. The BOE wants to

thank the River Vale Education Fund for helping to fund this program in all three of our schools. We would also like to thank Mrs. Dowling and the staff for working so hard to implement this program this school year. I know the year is already filled with other challenges so I'm very appreciative that you made this happen!

I am just finishing "Permission To Feel" Unlocking The Power of Emotions To Help Our Kids, Ourselves, And Our Society To Thrive by Dr. Marc Brackett, Ph.D. which I highly recommend. Dr. Brackett is the Director of the Yale Center for Emotional Intelligence and a Professor at the Yale Child Study Team Center.

I hope our students, staff and parents have a wonderful, successful and safe 2020/2021 school year

COMMITTEE REPORTS – CHAIRPERSON

- **Buildings & Grounds** – None
- **Communications & Policies** – Mrs. Senande reported that there is a first reading of two policies on this agenda.
- **Curriculum & Technology** – None
- **Finance** – Mrs. Pintarelli read from a prepared statement:

There are 2 things I would like to point out to the Board and the Public.

1. I would like to draw attention to Resolution B9. This resolution authorizes the withdrawal of \$217,834 from our Maintenance Reserve Fund. This allocation is necessary to pay for the Needlepoint Bipolar Ionization project we have been talking about for all three schools. This system can be installed to our existing HVAC unit. Once installed the system generates a high concentration of positive and negative ions. These ions travel through the air in search of particles/pathogens. The ions attach to those pathogens. Then they disrupt the pathogen's surface protein, causing them to become inactive and unable to spread. Besides fighting the COVID virus, this system can improve air quality for students with allergies and other respiratory issues such as asthma.
2. I also wanted to share that the District has also spent \$130,000 on top of the proposed \$217,834 for PPE and other COVID related expenses. All expenses are truly necessary for the health and safety of our RV families, teachers, administrators, staff and the community as a whole.

- **Negotiations** – None
- **Personnel** – None

Committee Meeting Schedule

Date	Time	Committee
September 8, 2020	6:00 PM	Buildings & Grounds
September 22, 2020	6:00 PM	Curriculum & Technology

October 13, 2020	6:00 PM	Communications & Policies
November 17, 2020	6:00 PM	Negotiations
December 15, 2020	6:00 PM	Finance
January 5, 2021	6:00 PM	Finance
January 19, 2021	6:00 PM	Personnel
February 9, 2021	6:00 PM	Buildings & Grounds
February 23, 2021	6:00 PM	Finance
March 2, 2021	6:00 PM	Finance
March 16, 2021	6:00 PM	Finance
March 30, 2021	6:00 PM	Communications & Policies
April 27, 2021	6:00 PM	Personnel
May 11, 2021	6:00 PM	Curriculum & Technology

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 Public Schools is of interest or concern to a resident, the matter should be referred to the responsible building principal or the Interim Superintendent of Schools by telephone, letter or email.

Meeting opened to public comments at 7:06 P.M.

Public comments:

Ms. Ippolito stated that anyone that is interested in asking a question should type their name and address into the chat. Thank you.

Marla Giummarra, 790 Drake Lane: When is the ionization project scheduled to start and how long will it take to be completed?

Ms. Ippolito responded that the project was being approved at tonight’s meeting. The next step is to contact the contractor and advise that the project was approved. The contractor was aware of the District’s interest however, a specific start date was not provided. The contractor will be installing the needlepoint bi-polar ionization equipment in every room in each of the three (3) schools so this is not a project that will be completed in a day or so. I will follow up and report at the next Board Meeting regarding the start date and/or progress.

Meeting closed to public comments at 7:11 P.M.

INTERIM SUPERINTENDENT’S REPORT

Dr. Alvarez commented that following the last Board Meeting, the District made several changes to its Restart Plan based on concerns and suggestions from parents. He noted the District also made some revisions based on clarifying questions as a result of the County Office's review. He stated that the District continues to strengthen its plan and its practices. The Restart Plan, which is on the District's website, continues to be updated, whenever a change is made. It is a work in progress.

He also reported visiting all three schools in the past few days. It was evident that accommodations are in place including classroom arrangements, Plexiglas dividers where appropriate, stand-alone thermometer check points, sanitation stations and a number of other items. He remarked that teachers were upbeat and learning new strategies to reach our students during last week's professional development days. He also reported that approximately 24% of our students are currently remote-only learners.

BOARD SECRETARY’S REPORT

Ms. Ippolito thanked the Administration, Mr. O’Gara, Mr. Peterson and their staff for all the work they did over the summer to prepare the District for reopening.

Ms. Ippolito also reported on the following:

- A communications committee being formed for the referendum
- In person Board of Education meetings are considered General indoor gatherings and must be limited to 25 people or 25% of a room's capacity -- whichever number is lower. All attendees at indoor gatherings must wear face coverings and stay six feet apart.
- The referendum was postponed to January 26, 2021 due to the Governor’s Executive Order # 177
- Woodside School drainage and parking lot project are approximately 95% complete. The punch list is being prepared for a meeting with the contractor and Architect on Friday September 11, 2021

Ms. Ippolito discussed the following summer projects that were completed as follows:

Holdrum

- Room # 69 renovated – new floor, painted and removed built in counters

Woodside

- Woodside Elementary School – Drainage & Paving of parking lot

Roberge

- Music room, installed new floor and painted

Roberge Annex/Park Academy:

- Upgraded the door buzzer system

District wide

- Trees removed
- Installed hand sanitizer stations in all buildings
- Installed non-contact thermometers in all buildings
- Installed desk shields in all buildings
- Installed counter shields in all building offices
- Misting machines – ordered five more

➤ **Next Year’s Projects:**

- January 26, 2021 Bond Referendum

➤ **Priorities/Possible Current Year Projects:**

GENERAL RESOLUTIONS

**G1. MOTION BY Mr. Rosini SECONDED BY Mrs. Senande
BE IT RESOLVED BY THE RIVER VALE BOARD OF EDUCATION that the Board, approves the Minutes from the August 25, 2020 Regular Board Meeting.**

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

**G2. MOTION BY Mr. Rosini SECONDED BY Mrs. Senande
BE IT RESOLVED BY THE RIVER VALE BOARD OF EDUCATION that the Board, approves the Closed Session Minutes from the Board Meeting on August 25, 2020.**

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

**G3. MOTION BY Mr. Rosini SECONDED BY Mrs. Senande
BE IT RESOLVED BY THE RIVER VALE BOARD OF EDUCATION that the Board, approves the first reading and revisions of the following new/revised River Vale Board of Education Policies and Regulations:**

<u>Policy #</u>	<u>Policy Title</u>	<u>New/Revised</u>	<u>1st Reading</u>	<u>2nd Reading</u>
1648	Restart and Recovery Plan	Revised	September 8, 2020	

1648.03 Restart and Recovery Plan – Full-time New September 8, 2020
Remote Instruction

	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 Mrs. Pintarelli
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, 2020 as follows:**

Fund 10 – General Fund	-	\$ 91,802.28
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	-	\$352,149.48
Fund 91 – Merchants Account	-	\$ 57.85
Total		\$444,009.61

	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 Mrs. Pintarelli
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, 2020 in the amount of \$16,789.64.**

	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 Mrs. Pintarelli
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 month ending August 31, 2020 in the amount of \$27,598.00 as set forth below:**

**Transfer of Funds
Month Ending August 31, 2020**

T125	FROM	11-000-213-320-10-18-043	PURCH PROF SERV/CLINICAL	-2098.00
	TO	11-000-213-610-20-20-000	H-NURSE'S SUPPLIES	1073.00
	TO	11-000-213-610-60-60-000	W-NURSE'S SUPPLIES	1025.00
	TOTAL			2098.00
T130	FROM	11-000-216-320-10-18-118	PURCH PROF SRVCS-SPEECH CONS	-7500.00
	TO	11-000-216-320-10-18-012	PURCH PROF SERVICES	7500.00
T153	FROM	11-000-230-820-10-11-000	JUDGMENTS AGAINST THE SCHOOL	-18000.00
	TO	11-000-223-320-10-17-000	PURCH. PROF. SERVICES	18000.00
	TOTALS:			
	FROM:			-27598.00
	TO:			27598.00

Note: Transaction Date: 8/31/2020

	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 Mrs. Pintarelli
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 8, 2020 as follows:**

Fund 10 – General Fund	-	\$397,358.01
Fund 10 – Voided Checks	-	\$ 0.00
Fund 20 – Special Revenue	-	\$ 0.00
Fund 20 - Voided Checks	-	\$ 0.00
Fund 30 – Capital Projects	-	\$ 2,893.67
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
Total		\$400,251.68

	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 Mrs. Pintarelli
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 8, 2020 in the amount of \$7,493.59.**

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

B6. MOTION BY Mrs. Rothenberg SECONDED BY Mrs. Pintarelli
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, 2020 through June 30, 2021.**

Name	School/ Dept.	Conference	Location	Date(s)	Cost
Lorraine Waldes	Board of Education	BCSBA Virtual Fall Meeting	Virtual	9/29/20	\$0.00

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

B6b.

Name	School/ Dept.	Conference	Location	Date(s)	Cost
Steven Rosini	Board of Education	BCSBA Virtual Fall Meeting	Virtual	9/29/20	\$0.00

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

B6c.

Name	School/ Dept.	Conference	Location	Date(s)	Cost
Patrice Pintarelli	Board of Education	BCSBA Virtual Fall Meeting	Virtual	9/29/20	\$0.00

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

B6d.

Name	School/ Dept.	Conference	Location	Date(s)	Cost
John Puccio	Board of Education	BCSBA Virtual Fall Meeting	Virtual	9/29/20	\$0.00

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

B6e.

Name	School/ Dept.	Conference	Location	Date(s)	Cost
Deborah Rothenberg	Board of Education	BCSBA Virtual Fall Meeting	Virtual	9/29/20	\$0.00

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

B6f.

Name	School/ Dept.	Conference	Location	Date(s)	Cost
Jason Schlereth	Board of Education	BCSBA Virtual Fall Meeting	Virtual	9/29/20	\$0.00

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

B6g.

Name	School/ Dept.	Conference	Location	Date(s)	Cost
Virginia Senande	Board of Education	BCSBA Virtual Fall Meeting	Virtual	9/29/20	\$0.00

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

**B7. MOTION BY Mrs. Rothenberg SECONDED BY Mrs. Pintarelli
BE IT RESOLVED BY THE RIVER VALE BOARD OF EDUCATION that the Board, upon recommendation of the School Business Administrator, approves the renewal of the transportation contract with Scholastic Bus Company, Inc. of Fair Lawn, New Jersey for the 2020-2021 school year as follows:**

Route 1	\$48,712.53 annual
Route 2	\$48,712.53 annual
Route 3	\$48,712.53 annual

Renewal rate equals the CPI of 1.70% as set by the State of New Jersey Department of Education.

	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 Mrs. Pintarelli
BE IT RESOLVED BY THE RIVER VALE BOARD OF EDUCATION that the Board, upon recommendation of the School Business Administrator, authorizes the procurement of goods and services through OMNIA Partners (Formerly known as National IPA) in accordance with Region 4 ESC Contract #R150505-NJ-307687.**

WHEREAS, Title 18A:18A-10 provides that the River Vale Board of Education without advertising for bids, or after having rejected all bids obtained pursuant to advertising therefore, by resolution may purchase any goods or services pursuant to a contract or contracts for

such goods or services entered into on behalf of the State by the Division of Purchase and Property, and

WHEREAS, the River Vale School District has the need, on a timely basis, to procure goods and services utilizing state contracts, and

WHEREAS, the River Vale Board of Education desires to authorize its purchasing agent to make any and all purchases necessary to meet the needs of the school district throughout the school year.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the River Vale Board of Education does hereby authorize the district purchasing agent to award the contract for HVAC and air cleaning technology and services to D&B Building Solutions LLC through OMNIA Partners (Formerly known as National IPA) in accordance with Region 4 ESC Contract #R150505-NJ-307687 in the amount of \$217,834.

Account No. 11-000-261-420-20-14-000 - \$72,612
11-000-261-420-40-14-000 - \$72,611
11-000-261-420-60-14-000 - \$72,611

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

B9. MOTION BY Mrs. Rothenberg SECONDED BY Mrs. Pintarelli
BE IT RESOLVED BY THE RIVER VALE BOARD OF EDUCATION that the Board, pursuant to 6A:23A-14.2(d) and upon recommendation of the School Business Administrator, **authorizes the withdrawal of Maintenance Reserve Funds (G/L #10-764) in the amount of \$217,834 to fund the needlepoint bipolar ionization project at Holdrum Middle School, Roberge Elementary School and Woodside Elementary School as awarded by the Board on September 8, 2020.**

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

PERSONNEL RESOLUTIONS

P1. MOTION BY Mrs. Senande SECONDED BY Mrs. Pintarelli
BE IT RESOLVED BY THE RIVER VALE BOARD OF EDUCATION that the Board, upon the recommendation of the Interim Superintendent of Schools, **retroactively accepts, with regret, the resignation of Amara O’Neill, a Holdrum School lunch aide, effective August 25, 2020.**

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

- P2. MOTION BY Mrs. Senande SECONDED BY Mrs. Pintarelli**
BE IT RESOLVED BY THE RIVER VALE BOARD OF EDUCATION that the Board, upon the recommendation of the Interim Superintendent of Schools, **retroactively approves an unpaid leave of absence for Lisa Mellone, a Holdrum School Aide, from September 3, 2020 through September 4, 2020.**

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

- P3. MOTION BY Mrs. Senande SECONDED BY Mrs. Pintarelli**
BE IT RESOLVED BY THE RIVER VALE BOARD OF EDUCATION that the Board, upon the recommendation of the Interim Superintendent of Schools, **retroactively approves an unpaid leave of absence for Erin Oates, a Woodside School Lunch Aide, from September 3, 2020 through October 16, 2020.**

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

- P4. MOTION BY Mrs. Senande SECONDED BY Mrs. Pintarelli**
BE IT RESOLVED BY THE RIVER VALE BOARD OF EDUCATION that the Board, upon the recommendation of the Interim Superintendent of Schools, **retroactively approves an unpaid leave of absence for Cynthia Mazza, a Woodside School Lunch Aide, from September 3, 2020 through October 16, 2020.**

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

- P5. MOTION BY Mrs. Senande SECONDED BY Mrs. Pintarelli**
BE IT RESOLVED BY THE RIVER VALE BOARD OF EDUCATION that the Board, upon the recommendation of the Interim Superintendent of Schools, **retroactively**

approves an unpaid leave of absence for Shirin Ghafoori, a Woodside School Lunch Aide, from September 3, 2020 through October 16, 2020.

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

**P6. MOTION BY Mrs. Senande SECONDED BY Mrs. Pintarelli
BE IT RESOLVED BY THE RIVER VALE BOARD OF EDUCATION that the Board, upon the recommendation of the Interim Superintendent of Schools, transfers the following District Aide from the Instructional Aide Guide to the ABA Aide Guide for the 2020-2021 school year, having completed the necessary training and demonstration of skills, effective September 9, 2020:**

Employee	From	To	Account No.
Olivia Wagner	Pre-K Aide Step 2 (\$16.00 per hour)	Pre-K ABA Aide Step 2 (\$19.00 per hour)	11-215-100-106-60-11-000

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

**P7. MOTION BY Mrs. Senande SECONDED BY Mrs. Pintarelli
BE IT RESOLVED BY THE RIVER VALE BOARD OF EDUCATION that the Board, upon the recommendation of the Interim Superintendent of Schools, changes the location from Roberge School to Woodside School for the following Special Education Aide for the 2020-2021 school year as follows:**

EMPLOYEE NAME	SCHOOL	POSITION	HOURS	DAYS	STEP	HOURLY SALARY	ACCOUNT
Laura Fogarty	Woodside	Special Ed Aide	4.00	5	1	17.50	11-000-217-106-60-11-004

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

**P8. MOTION BY Mrs. Senande SECONDED BY Mrs. Pintarelli
BE IT RESOLVED BY THE RIVER VALE BOARD OF EDUCATION that the Board, upon the recommendation of the Interim Superintendent of Schools, approves the increase/decrease of hours for the following Aides as listed below:**

Name	Location	Position	From Hours	To Hours	Account Number
Kaelah Byrom	Woodside	LLD Aide	5.75	5.00	11-204-100-106-60-11-000
Laura Fogarty	Woodside	Special Ed Aide	4.00	5.75	11-000-217-106-60-11-004
Samuelle Jean-Charles	Roberge	Special Ed Aide	5.75	5.00	11-000-217-106-40-11-004
Martina Katsikiotis	Holdrum	Special Ed Aide	4.00	5.75	11-000-217-106-20-11-004
Alison Saunders	Holdrum	ABA Aide	4.00	5.75	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							

**P9. MOTION BY Mrs. Senande SECONDED BY Mrs. Pintarelli
BE IT RESOLVED BY THE RIVER VALE BOARD OF EDUCATION that the Board, upon the recommendation of the Interim Superintendent of Schools, reimburses the following RVEA member, for unused accumulated sick days on June 30, 2020 per his/her contract, as listed below, to be paid on January 1, 2021.**

Staff Member 003857	Retiring 8/31/2020	Illness days – 170 @ \$92.00 per day = \$15,640.00 Account No. 11-000-291-299-10-11-000
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	Mrs. Pintarelli	Mr. Puccio	Mr. Rosini	Mrs. Rothenberg	Mr. Schlereth	Mrs. Senande	Mrs. Waldes
AYE	√		√	√	√	√	√
NAY							
ABSENT		√					
ABSTAINED							

**P10. MOTION BY Mrs. Senande SECONDED BY Mrs. Pintarelli
BE IT RESOLVED BY THE RIVER VALE BOARD OF EDUCATION that the Board, upon the recommendation of the Interim Superintendent of Schools, approves the appointment of Christina Roveccio to the position of Confidential Executive Secretary to School Business Administrator/Board Secretary as of November 1, 2020 through June 30, 2021 at a prorated annual salary of \$72,000; and approves the terms and conditions of the contract.**

Account No. 11-000-251-105-10-11-009

Pursuant to N.J.S.A 18A:16-17A a contribution of the employee’s annual base salary would be required if he or she did not waive coverage, currently a specified percentage of the cost of coverage for health care benefits for the employee’s salary range, but not less than 1.5% of the employee’s annual base salary, as required by N.J.S.A. 18A:16-17, and as may be amended by the legislature.

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

P11. MOTION BY Mrs. Senande SECONDED BY Mrs. Pintarelli
BE IT RESOLVED BY THE RIVER VALE BOARD OF EDUCATION that the Board, upon the recommendation of the Interim Superintendent of Schools, **approves the following resolution:**

BE IT RESOLVED that the River Vale Board of Education (hereinafter referred to as the “Board”) hereby adopts and approves the terms, stipulations and conditions as established in the Sidebar Agreement by and between the Board and the River Vale Education Association, which is incorporated herein by reference, and agrees to be bound thereby. The Board President and the Board Secretary are hereby authorized and directed to execute the attached Sidebar Agreement and any other documents necessary to effectuate said Sidebar Agreement.

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

P12. MOTION BY Mrs. Senande SECONDED BY Mrs. Pintarelli
BE IT RESOLVED BY THE RIVER VALE BOARD OF EDUCATION that the Board, upon the recommendation of the Interim 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 2020-2021 school year.**

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

P13. MOTION BY Mrs. Senande SECONDED BY Mrs. Pintarelli
BE IT RESOLVED BY THE RIVER VALE BOARD OF EDUCATION that the Board, upon the recommendation of the Interim Superintendent of Schools, **approves Northern Region Educational Services Commission with all of their properly certified employees, to provide substitute services to the district for the 2020-2021 school year.**

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

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 Public Schools is of interest or concern to a resident, the matter should be referred to the responsible building principal or the Interim Superintendent of Schools by telephone, letter or email.

Meeting opened to public comments at 7:16 P.M.

Kate Dalton, 695 Wicklow Way: In the FAQs it mentions a “Warm Line” has been established for parents and students. Can you clarify how this Warm Line works?

“In River Vale, the emotional health of our students and staff is of paramount importance. The district has taken extreme measures to ensure that all of our staff and students feel as supported as possible during these unprecedented times. River Vale Public Schools has partnered with West Bergen Mental Health and has hired a full-time therapist to serve students in all three buildings during the 2020-21 school year. Implemented a “Warm Line” for all students, parents, and staff members”

Ms. Dowling responded the District hired West Bergen Mental Health for their services this school year. In an effort to support our families during this time, West Bergen Mental Health is offering their assistance with a “Warmline”. This service is **FREE** to all River Vale families and is completely **CONFIDENTIAL**. The “Warmline” will be available to from 9:00 AM to 5:00 PM, Monday through Friday. Please call 201-688-7098 and their staff will coordinate a phone counseling session for your family member. If this is an emergency or you require immediate assistance, please contact Children's Mobile Response & Stabilization Services (via Performcare) at 1-877-652-7624 or 911. This information can also be found on our Restart Website under the Mental Health tab.

Leigh Jacobs, 716 Westwood Ave: Does the lack of the ionized mechanism affect the current HVAC system as far as safety or efficiency?

Ms. Ippolito stated that the lack of the needlepoint bipolar ionization devices does not in any way negatively affect the current HVAC system. The District is purchasing the needlepoint bipolar ionization devices to enhance the HVAC system.

Marla Giummarra, 790 Drake Lane: Is the district going to consider going back to five days if things get better with transmission numbers or is absolutely a hybrid/remote schedule for the 2020-2021 year?

Dr. Alvarez stated that we are dealing with a fluid situation and this would be a consideration in the future depending on how the situation progresses. The goal is to have full time in person instruction however, health and safety of the staff and students is paramount.

Ann Marie Zihal, 731 Beechcrest: Hello, I know this was requested at a previous meeting, but I was wondering if our district would consider bringing just Kindergarten and first graders on site for 5 days. Today was day one and already proved to be a tremendous challenge to retain and sustain my first grader's attention. Thank you.

Dr. Alvarez stated that while this seems like an easy suggestion to implement, it would not work for River Vale.

Cheryl Berkowitz, 570 Wayne Drive: Thank you so much to the amazing teachers today! They did an amazing job making today go as smoothly as possible. I am delighted how HMS has implemented remote learning for the full remote kids. I am concerned about the lower grades. Will the district reevaluate the teaching if need be? It is very difficult for a teacher to have 5 or so kids in front of him or her and 14 or so kids at home. NJ states remote learning kids will receive high quality learning. How and who determines this?

Dr. Alvarez stated that the District would reevaluate as necessary. The goal is to have full time in person instruction however, health and safety of the staff and students is paramount. We believe the remote learning students are receiving high quality learning.

Valerie Steiner, 615 Poplar Road: Will the “phases” be released before they become effective, so we have an opportunity to discuss and stay informed.

Dr. Alvarez stated that any changes will be clearly communicated out in ample time so that everyone will have the opportunity to plan appropriately.

Jenn Weber, 573 Green Lane: How many districts locally are 5 days a week? I know old Tappan started at the beginning of last week. Have you solicited information from them on what seems to have worked there?

Dr. Alvarez stated that the primary focus was River Vale and how to best implement a plan that will be successful in River Vale. No I did not reach out to Old Tappan.

Rebecca Massa, 125 Coopers Lane: Thank you for putting this ionization system in place to help keep our children healthy in school.

Ms. Ippolito thanked Ms. Massa for her comment.

Amy Dahl, 608 Abbe Court: Is there a minimum amount of time the teachers should be teaching the virtual kids?

Ms. Dowling responded that there was not a minimum amount of time, however, all virtual students have the opportunity to have one on one contact with their teachers.

Cheryl Berkowitz, 570 Wayne Drive: As much as we appreciate Dr. Alvarez and all his hard work during this pandemic; any update on Supt search?

Ms. Waldes stated that the process was moving forward.

Marla Giummarra, 790 Drake Lane: I am curious how Northvale can do so much outdoors and you can't consider it. They've brought in tree trunks, wood chips and tents. Have you seen this? Can you revisit this?

Dr. Alvarez stated that River Vale was not considering creating outdoor learning spaces at this time.

Leigh Jacobs, 716 Westwood Avenue: What is the rationale behind not providing a Chromebook for preschoolers?

Ms. Dowling stated that all students K-8 have been provided a device. If there is a reason that the Pre-K student needs a device they should reach out. If the student is one of Ms. DeGaetano's students please reach out to her.

Cheryl Berkowitz, 570 Wayne Drive: lol

Marla Giummarra, 790 Drake Lane: Would you like a committee?

Dr. Alvarez stated that there was a current committee in effect. The Restart Committee and if need be, that committee will be reconvened.

Marla Giummarra, 790 Drake Lane: With all due respect. It sounds like you haven't looked what districts in neighboring towns are doing ...

Dr. Alvarez stated that the primary focus was River Vale and how to best implement a plan that will be successful in River Vale. I have reached out to Pascack Valley and the other sending districts to see what they are doing being River Vale sends to Pascack Valley.

Marla Giummarra, 790 Drake Lane: As a parent I am telling you what are needs are.

Dr. Alvarez - Thank you for your comment.

Tony Spatarella, 753 Rolling Hill Drive: There is much talk in the news about potential vaccines being approved and released prior to the end of 2020, what changes to the plan would occur considering this happens. Will there be a vaccination requirement for staff and children to continue face to face participation?

Dr. Alvarez stated, Mr. Spatarella you are my neighbor. It is still too early in the process to know when a vaccine will be available. At that time, we will take this into consideration.

Valerie Steiner, 615 Poplar Road: Why not start the committee now for the various phases that are being considered.

Dr. Alvarez stated that should the need arise, the Restart Committee will be reconvened.

Marla Giummarra, 790 Drake Lane: Who is on the restart committee? Is that public knowledge?

Dr. Alvarez stated that the Restart Committee is in the Restart Plan and up on the District website.

Valerie Steiner, 615 Poplar Road: If October is the next possible phase, shouldn't the committee be reconvened now?

Dr. Alvarez stated it's only the first day of school however, should the need arise, the Restart Committee will be reconvened.

Marla Giummarra, 790 Drake Lane: What about the future restart committee?

Dr. Alvarez stated that should the need arise, the Restart Committee will be reconvened.

Marla Giummarra, 790 Drake Lane: Is that the same committee?

Dr. Alvarez stated that yes, it was the same committee.

Marla Giummarra, 790 Drake Lane: When are they reconvening?

Dr. Alvarez stated that should the need arise, the Restart Committee will be reconvened.

Alyssa Siegel, 593 Barr Court: How were the committee members chosen?

Dr. Alvarez stated that the committee was selected to create a balanced committee comprised of parents at every grade level, general education parents, special education parents, Administrators, Police, Special interest groups (i.e. PTA) and equity between males and females.

Valerie Steiner, 615 Poplar Road: Isn't the point of having a committee to have input before the change is contemplated.

Dr. Alvarez stated that should the need arise; the Restart Committee will be reconvened.

Jamie Assor, 512 Bernita Drive: The committee list is on pg. 68

Ms. Ippolito thanked Ms. Assor for her statement.

Leigh Jacobs 716 Westwood Avenue: There's no way to know if change is needed yet - it's been 1 day.

Dr. Alvarez thanked Ms. Jacobs for her statement.

Wendy Diaz, 782 Drake Lane: You mentioned changing the BOE meetings to in person at 25 people capacity. It's is very discouraging for parents to participate. You will have another zoom situation in your hands. Pre-Covid other schools held their meetings in gyms or school cafeterias, that hasn't been the case in River Vale. If that's not an option, will the board consider the BOE meetings continue as zoom meetings? It makes it easier for a lot of families to participate and still feel connected. The district should be promoting a community feel and including families that can't attend in person. Would you consider both in person and zoom?

Ms. Ippolito stated that the Board has yet to make a final decision on whether or not they will hold their meetings in person or continue using the Zoom platform.

Mario M. Blanch, Esq., 615 Poplar Road: This board is completely inept

Mario M. Blanch, Esq., 615 Poplar Road: All summer to prepare and not even a real plan

Mario M. Blanch, Esq., 615 Poplar Road: No answers. This is absolutely unacceptable

Mario M. Blanch, Esq., 615 Poplar Road: I expect this read in accordance with open public meetings act

Mario M. Blanch, Esq., 615 Poplar Road: Cannot even figure out phase 2 or 3

Leigh Jacobs 716 Westwood Avenue: Doesn't seem fair to point fingers in face of such uncertainty with everyone doing their best. Just saying.

Mario M. Blanch, Esq., 615 Poplar Road: Support from who Berkowitz?

Ms. Waldes made a statement reminding everyone that while you may be passionate about your position or ask a tough question, it should be done with decorum and kindness. There is no reason to be disrespectful or unprofessional.

Julie Geffner, 557 Barr Court: Will you survey the families in 2 weeks

Dr. Alvarez stated that another parent survey would be going out.

Valerie Steiner, 615 Poplar Road: The plan still has not been approved? I previously asked what was required to be clarified, and Mr. Alvarez did not release the information. Are these the same requests for clarification, or new ones?

Dr. Alvarez said there is no formal approval and the points for clarification are the same. I can send you a copy. I'm not sure where we left off.

Valerie Steiner, 615 Poplar Road: We left off that you said up you could not release the requests for clarification, but yes please send me a copy

Dr. Alvarez said I will review and get back to you on this. Thank you.

Cheryl Berkowitz, 570 Wayne Drive: Will the survey include if parents are satisfied or not

Dr. Alvarez stated that a question as to parent satisfaction will be part of the survey.

Kate Dalton, 695 Wicklow Way: Thank you!

Meeting closed to public comments at 7:56 P.M.

OLD BUSINESS

None

NEW BUSINESS

None

ADJOURNMENT

**MOTION BY Mrs. Pintarelli SECONDED BY Mrs. Rothenberg
that the **September 8, 2020 Regular Meeting** be adjourned at **10:20 P.M.****

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

Respectfully submitted,

Ms. Kelly Ippolito
Board Secretary/School Business Administrator

