

RIVERSIDE TOWNSHIP BOARD OF EDUCATION
REGULAR MEETING
December 14, 2023

The Regular Meeting of the Riverside Township Board of Education was held on Thursday, December 14, 2023 at 7:00 p.m., in the Elementary Cafeteria.

Present were: D. Graf, T. McElroy, S. Parker, M. Pinho, S. Pinho, J. Sierra, B. Winerling, R. Wrice, S. Wrice, M. Adams and R. O'Brien

Absent was: E. Mossop

Dr. Parker led the flag salute.

Mr. O'Brien announced that adequate notice of the meeting had been given to the public by notifying the Courier Post and the Burlington County Times and posting notice at the Riverside Town Hall on January 12, 2023.

Mr. Adams gave a month to month update on the happenings at the school.

Mr. Adams announced that Mrs. Milch is the recipient of the Ring The Bell Award.

STUDENT COUNCIL REPRESENTATIVE

Emily Valverde stated in the month of November they collected canned food for those in need. All donations went to the Knights of Columbus. This month's staff competition events are a door decorating contest that will be judges on Monday for holiday apparel on the 21st and attendance. Student Government is in the middle of their 12 days of giving. Each day a different officer will award two lucky students with one of their favorite gifts. To enter a chance, students simply like the post on Instagram. Saturday at noon they will be participating in Wreaths Across America at the Beverly National cemetery. On Friday, December 22nd the staff will play the seniors in their annual senior/faculty basketball game for Rampage. Looking Ahead: Winter Leadership Conference is January 10, 2024 at TCNJ. MLK Day of Service will be held January 15, 2024.

GOOD NEWS

Mrs. Milch stated The Student Council continues to help the community and the school by holding their annual food drive for the Knights of Columbus. As always they were aided by a generous donation from Friends of Ron. Student Council, Interact, Police Explorers, RHS and RMS Bands and Choirs, as well as the administrators and Board members participated in "Christmas in Riverside" festivities last Saturday. The RMS and RHS Bands held their Winter Concert last evening. The RES, RMS, and RHS Choirs will hold their Winter Concert on Tuesday, December 19 at 7 p.m. Tomorrow afternoon from 2-2:30 the RMS and RHS groups will be singing holiday carols and selling hot cocoa/baked treats on the front lawn. Singing along is encouraged. On Saturday, December 16 at noon, the RHS Civil Air Patrol under Major Dana Ruggieri and the National Honor Society under Adviser Jennifer Hunter will participate in Wreaths Across America at Beverly National Cemetery. The RHS 2023-24 winter athletic season kicked off today with a wrestling match, and boys' and girls' basketball games. The Rampage is sponsoring a 2-Week Spirit Week, complete with daily competitions and dress-up days, culminating in the annual Project Santa game between the seniors and the faculty. Teddy Hawkins not only earned First Team Horizon Division honors in football, the National Honor Society member was also named to the South Jersey All-Academic Team. John Boston set the Riverside rushing record with 1512 yards for the 2023 season. The previous record-holder was Officer Brendon Griffin, the Riverside SRO. Yesterday we learned that nj.com has named John Boston the West Jersey Horizon Division Player of the Year. RHS football coach Robert VanSciver was honored as the 2023 Gordon-Masters Burlington County Coach of the Year. RHS girls' soccer coach Christopher Updike was honored as the 2023 Burlington County Scholastic League Coach of the Year. Four faculty members were honored last Wednesday: Educational Support

Professional of the Year Tara McElroy; RES Teacher of the Year Jill Gilardi; RMS Teacher of the Year Jacquelyn Lawrence; RHS Teacher of the Year Margaret Garvin.

STUDENTS OF THE MONTH

Mr. Shumway, Ms. Follis and Mr. Micucci introduced the following students of the month:

Elementary School; 3rd Grade: Elijah Hinton 4th Grade: Annabelle Manca-Wells 5th Grade: Jadalleine Abbott

Middle School; 6th Grade: Rashad Jones 7th Grade: Jeffrey Pu Lopez 8th Grade: Dennis Cordova Auca

High School; 9th Grade: Jeneija Harris 10th Grade: Ashley DePaula 11th Grade: Danielle Clelland 12th Grade: Ivanelys Ramos-Lopez

VISUAL AND PERFORMING ARTS STUDENT OF THE MONTH

Mr. Huber, Mr. Jackamonis and Mr. Bekarciak introduced the following students of the Visual and Performing Arts:

RES: Adria Jackamonis **RMS**: Josiah Davis **RHS**: Honyr Darby

ATHLETE STUDENTS OF THE MONTH

RHS- Theodore Hawkins - Varsity Football, **RHS**- Camryn Provenzano - Varsity Soccer

CADET OF THE MARKING PERIOD

C/ Airman William Giannamore

CORRESPONDENCE-None

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

On the motion by Mrs. Winerling, seconded by Mrs. Sierra, and carried unanimously, Be It Resolved that the Riverside Township Board of Education hereby approves the minutes of a Board Workshop Meeting and Regular Board Meeting held on November 16, 2023.

VOTE-Aye: D. Graf, T. McElroy, S. Parker, M. Pinho, S. Pinho, J. Sierra, B. Winerling, R. Wrice, S. Wrice
Nay: 0
Carried

APPROVAL OF FINANCIAL REPORTS

On the motion by Mrs. M. Pinho, seconded by Mrs. S. Pinho, and carried unanimously, Be It Resolved that the Riverside Township Board of Education hereby approves the Board Secretary's Report (October 31, 2023), the Treasurer's Report (October 31, 2023), the Cafeteria Financial Report (October 31, 2023), the student Activity Financial Report (October 31, 2023), Athletic Council (October 31, 2023), the Budget Status Report (October 31, 2023) and Board Secretary's Certification Budgetary Line Item Status (October 31, 2023), as attached.

VOTE-Aye: D. Graf, T. McElroy, S. Parker, M. Pinho, S. Pinho, J. Sierra, B. Winerling, R. Wrice, S. Wrice
Nay: 0
Carried

APPROVAL OF BILLS

On the motion by Mrs. M. Pinho, seconded by Mrs. Sierra, and carried unanimously, Be It Resolved that the Riverside Township Board of Education hereby approves payment of December 14, 2023 bills for the Board of Education and the Cafeteria as attached.

VOTE-Aye: D. Graf, T. McElroy, S. Parker, M. Pinho, S. Pinho, J. Sierra, B. Winerling, R. Wrice, S. Wrice
Nay: 0
Carried

BUSINESS & FINANCIAL

Transfers

On the motion by Mrs. M. Pinho, seconded by Mrs. Graf, and carried unanimously, **Whereas**, the State Department of Education permits transfers among the school district's budgetary line item accounts, **And Whereas**, it is the desire of the Riverside Township Board of Education to make such transfers, **Therefore, Be It Resolved**, by the Riverside Township Board of Education that the Board Secretary is hereby authorized to make the following budgetary account line item transfers, as attached.

VOTE-Aye: D. Graf, T. McElroy, S. Parker, M. Pinho, S. Pinho, J. Sierra, B. Winerling, R. Wrice, S. Wrice
Nay: 0
Carried

Fire Drill and Security Report

On the motion by Mrs. M. Pinho, seconded by Mrs. Graf, and carried unanimously, Be It Resolved that the Riverside Township Board of Education hereby approves the November Fire Drill Reports, submitted by Marc Ballantyne, Fire Marshal, and the Security Drill Report, submitted by Robert O'Brien, School Safety Officer, as attached.

VOTE-Aye: D. Graf, T. McElroy, S. Parker, M. Pinho, S. Pinho, J. Sierra, B. Winerling, R. Wrice, S. Wrice
Nay: 0
Carried

Flashlight 360

On the motion by Mrs. M. Pinho, seconded by Mrs. Graf, and carried unanimously, Be It Resolved that the Riverside Township Board of Education hereby approves the attached service agreement with Flashlight 360 to tailor and provide personalized student practice and formative assessment in speaking, reading, listening, and writing for our English Language Learners in preparation for the ACCESS - WIDA test for the 2023-2024 school year, including professional development for staff, at no more than \$9,000 for a 6-month pilot period of January through June.

VOTE-Aye: D. Graf, T. McElroy, S. Parker, M. Pinho, S. Pinho, J. Sierra, B. Winerling, R. Wrice, S. Wrice
Nay: 0
Carried

Niche

On the motion by Mrs. M. Pinho, seconded by Mrs. Graf, and carried unanimously, Be It Resolved that the Riverside Township Board of Education hereby approves the service agreement with Niche as a community engagement tool for the period of December 2023 - December 2024 school year at a cost of \$2490, as attached.

VOTE-Aye: D. Graf, T. McElroy, S. Parker, M. Pinho, S. Pinho, J. Sierra, B. Winerling, R. Wrice, S. Wrice
Nay: 0
Carried

Parent Square

On the motion by Mrs. M. Pinho, seconded by Mrs. Graf, and carried unanimously, Be It Resolved that the Riverside Township Board of Education hereby approves the service agreement with Parent Square as a student and community engagement tool for the period of December 2023 - July 2024 school year at a cost of \$1500, as attached.

VOTE-Aye: D. Graf, T. McElroy, S. Parker, M. Pinho, S. Pinho, J. Sierra, B. Winerling, R. Wrice, S. Wrice
Nay: 0
Carried

BCIP-JIF Renewal Resolution

On the motion by Mrs. M. Pinho, seconded by Mrs. Graf, and carried unanimously, Be It Resolved that the Riverside Township Board of Education hereby approves the resolution to renew membership in the Burlington County Insurance Pool-Joint Insurance Fund effective July 1, 2024 for a term of three years, as attached.

VOTE-Aye: D. Graf, T. McElroy, S. Parker, M. Pinho, S. Pinho, J. Sierra, B. Winerling, R. Wrice, S. Wrice
Nay: 0
Carried

2024-2025 Budget Calendar

On the motion by Mrs. M. Pinho, seconded by Mrs. Graf, and carried unanimously, Be It Resolved that the Riverside Township Board of Education hereby approves the budget calendar for the 2024-2025 school year, per attached calendar.

VOTE-Aye: D. Graf, T. McElroy, S. Parker, M. Pinho, S. Pinho, J. Sierra, B. Winerling, R. Wrice, S. Wrice
Nay: 0
Carried

PERSONNEL

Staff Development

On the motion by Mrs. S. Pinho, seconded by Mrs. M. Pinho, and carried unanimously, Be It Resolved that the Riverside Township Board of Education hereby approves the staff development activities for the 2023-2024 school year, as attached.

VOTE-Aye: D. Graf, T. McElroy, S. Parker, M. Pinho, S. Pinho, J. Sierra, B. Winerling, R. Wrice, S. Wrice
Nay: 0
Carried

Resignation

On the motion by Mrs. S. Pinho, seconded by Mrs. M. Pinho, and carried unanimously, Be It Resolved that the Riverside Township Board of Education hereby accepts, with regrets, the resignation of **Lynda Mountford**, Elementary School Cafeteria/Playground Aide, effective December 14, 2023.

VOTE-Aye: D. Graf, T. McElroy, S. Parker, M. Pinho, S. Pinho, J. Sierra, B. Winerling, R. Wrice, S. Wrice
Nay: 0
Carried

Job Description

On the motion by Mrs. S. Pinho, seconded by Mrs. M. Pinho, and carried unanimously, Be It Resolved that the Riverside Township Board of Education hereby approves the Middle School Clerk job description, as attached.

VOTE-Aye: D. Graf, T. McElroy, S. Parker, M. Pinho, S. Pinho, J. Sierra, B. Winering, R. Wrice, S. Wrice
Nay: 0
Carried

New Employees

On the motion by Mrs. S. Pinho, seconded by Mrs. M. Pinho, and carried unanimously, Be It Resolved that the Riverside Township Board of Education hereby approves the following staff member for the 2023-2024 school year, as recommended by the Superintendent:

1. **Mary Thurman**, Elementary School Café/Playground Aide at the hourly rate of \$14.13, start date December 15, 2023.
2. **Lexie Conard**, Elementary Special Education Teacher Full Time, at the contract salary of \$65,524 (Step 0) prorated, start date 01/31/2024, funded through the American Rescue Plan Grant, pending criminal history review.
3. **Gina Fernandes**, Middle School Clerk, at the contracted salary of \$40,634, prorated, start date January 01, 2024, for the 2023-2024 school year.
4. **Faris Caba**, Maintenance Worker-Full time, start date January 1, 2024 (or sooner) pending fitness for duty, at the contract salary of \$59,985, prorated.
5. **Christopher Updike**, Elementary Special Education Teacher Full Time, at the contract salary of \$65,524 (Step 0) prorated, start date 12/15/2023, funded through the American Rescue Plan Grant, pending criminal history review

VOTE-Aye: D. Graf, T. McElroy, S. Parker, M. Pinho, S. Pinho, J. Sierra, B. Winering, R. Wrice, S. Wrice
Nay: 0
Carried

Student Teachers

On the motion by Mrs. S. Pinho, seconded by Mrs. M. Pinho, and carried unanimously, Be It Resolved that the Riverside Township Board of Education hereby approves the placement of the following college students in the student teacher assignment during the 2023-2024 and 2024-2025 school year, as listed.

<u>Student</u>	<u>University</u>	<u>Placement</u>	<u>Dates</u>
Kyle Seybert	Rowan	Christopher McManus	03/11/24-04/25/24
Kyle Seybert	Rowan	Christopher McManus	09/03/24-10/25/24
Kyle Seybert	Rowan	Crystal Wasco	01/16/24-03/08/24
Kyle Seybert	Rowan	Crystal Wasco	10/28/24-12/19/24
Brendan Seybert	Rowan	Colleen Tete	03/11/24-04/25/24
Brendan Seybert	Rowan	Colleen Tete	09/03/24-10 /25/24
Brendan Seybert	Rowan	Richard Gilmore	01/16/24-03/08/24
Brendan Seybert	Rowan	Richard Gilmore	10/28/24-12/19/24
Sean Theis	Fairleigh Dickinson Univ.	Jill Gilardi	01/02/24-05/03/24
Alexandra Milewski	Jefferson College	Jennifer VanHee	01/08/24-03/01/24

VOTE-Aye: D. Graf, T. McElroy, S. Parker, M. Pinho, S. Pinho, J. Sierra, B. Winerling, R. Wrice, S. Wrice
Nay: 0
Carried

Winter Coach

On the motion by Mrs. S. Pinho, seconded by Mrs. M. Pinho, and carried unanimously, Be It Resolved that the Riverside Township Board of Education hereby approves the following winter coach for the 2023-2024 school year, at the contract salary listed.

<u>Position</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Salary</u>
HS/MS Assistant Wrestling Coach	Brendon Griffin	\$4,892

VOTE-Aye: D. Graf, T. McElroy, S. Parker, M. Pinho, S. Pinho, J. Sierra, B. Winerling, R. Wrice, S. Wrice
Nay: 0
Carried

New Substitute Rate

On the motion by Mrs. S. Pinho, seconded by Mrs. M. Pinho, and carried unanimously, Be It Resolved that the Riverside Township Board of Education hereby approves the substitute rate for Substitute Secretaries, Crossing Guards/Café Aides, and Custodians to \$15.13 per hour, effective January 1, 2024, to align with NJ Minimum Wage, as attached.

VOTE-Aye: D. Graf, T. McElroy, S. Parker, M. Pinho, S. Pinho, J. Sierra, B. Winerling, R. Wrice, S. Wrice
Nay: 0
Carried

Salary Adjustment

On the motion by Mrs. S. Pinho, seconded by Mrs. M. Pinho, and carried unanimously, Be It Resolved that the Riverside Township Board of Education hereby approves the salary adjustment for Playground/Café Aides and Crossing Guards from \$14.13 per hour to \$15.13 per hour, effective January 1, 2024, to align with NJ Minimum Wage, as attached.

VOTE-Aye: D. Graf, T. McElroy, S. Parker, M. Pinho, S. Pinho, J. Sierra, B. Winerling, R. Wrice, S. Wrice
Nay: 0
Carried

Volunteers

On the motion by Mrs. S. Pinho, seconded by Mrs. M. Pinho, and carried unanimously, Be It Resolved that the Riverside Township Board of Education hereby approves the following volunteers for the 2023-2024 school year.

<u>Name</u>	<u>Position</u>
John McElroy	Assistant HS Wrestling Coach
Jesse Grinnan	Assistant MS/HS Wrestling Coach
John McElroy	Assistant HS Baseball Coach
Andrew Jacobs	Assistant HS Unified Bowling Coach

VOTE-Aye: D. Graf, S. Parker, M. Pinho, S. Pinho, J. Sierra, B. Winerling, R. Wrice, S. Wrice
Abstained: T. McElroy
Nay: 0
Carried

After School Academy

On the motion by Mrs. S. Pinho, seconded by Mrs. M. Pinho, and carried unanimously, Be It Resolved that the Riverside Township Board of Education hereby approves the following staff members as teachers in the After School Academy for the 2023-2024 school year, at the rate of \$51.70 per hour.

Winter Teachers

**Jill Giardi
Cheryl Hansberry
Heather Sommers
Catherine Clarke
Kirby Watters
Cristina Bivins
Amanda Smith
Lisa Farrell
Chris Updike
Tiffany Ross**

Coordinator

Tara McElroy

Winter Substitutes

**Devi James
Stephanie Aubrey
Kathleen McTear
Stephanie Kirschbaum
Laura Bruzek
Cassidy Updike
Vanessa Connearney
Michelle McGill
Elsa Svekla
Joanna Devenney
Catherine Burry
Colleen Rizzi
Anastasia Lindenaman
Terrencia Smith
Kevin Landolt
Carletta Walker-Owens**

VOTE-Aye: D. Graf, S. Parker, M. Pinho, S. Pinho, J. Sierra, B. Winerling, R. Wrice, S. Wrice
Abstained: T. McElroy
Nay: 0
Carried

Salary Adjustment

On the motion by Mrs. S. Pinho, seconded by Mrs. M. Pinho, and carried unanimously, Be It Resolved that the Riverside Township Board of Education hereby approves the salary adjustment for **Stephanie Kirschbaum**, Elementary School ESL Teacher, from \$72,574 (Step 5, M+Longevity) to \$73,574 (Step 5+ M+15+Longevity), retroactive to September 1, 2023, for the 2023-2024 school year.

VOTE-Aye: D. Graf, T. McElroy, S. Parker, M. Pinho, S. Pinho, J. Sierra, B. Winerling, R. Wrice, S. Wrice
Nay: 0
Carried

Business Administrator/Board Secretary Contract Renewal

On the motion by Mrs. S. Pinho, seconded by Mrs. M. Pinho, and carried unanimously, Be It Resolved that the Riverside Township Board of Education hereby approves employment contract renewal of **Robert O'Brien**, Business Administrator/Board Secretary, for the 2024-2025 school year, per the terms of the attached County approved contract.

VOTE-Aye: D. Graf, T. McElroy, S. Parker, M. Pinho, S. Pinho, J. Sierra, B. Winerling, R. Wrice, S. Wrice
Nay: 0
Carried

Contract Rescission

On the motion by Mrs. S. Pinho, seconded by Mrs. M. Pinho, and carried unanimously, Be It Resolved that the Riverside Township Board of Education hereby rescinds the contract of Gary Herron as the Spring Baseball Head Coach at the contracted rate of \$8,806.

VOTE-Aye: D. Graf, T. McElroy, S. Parker, M. Pinho, S. Pinho, J. Sierra, B. Winerling, R. Wrice, S. Wrice
Nay: 0
Carried

STUDENTS

Field Trips

On the motion by Mrs. Winerling, seconded by Mrs. Graf, and carried unanimously, Be It Resolved that the Riverside Township Board of Education hereby approves the following field trips for the 2023-2024 school year, as attached.

VOTE-Aye: D. Graf, T. McElroy, S. Parker, M. Pinho, S. Pinho, J. Sierra, B. Winerling, R. Wrice, S. Wrice
Nay: 0
Carried

Fundraisers

On the motion by Mrs. Winerling, seconded by Mrs. Graf, and carried unanimously, Be It Resolved that the Riverside Township Board of Education hereby approves the following fundraisers for the 2023-2024 school year, as attached.

VOTE-Aye: D. Graf, T. McElroy, S. Parker, M. Pinho, S. Pinho, J. Sierra, B. Winerling, R. Wrice, S. Wrice
Nay: 0
Carried

Out of District Placements

On the motion by Mrs. Winerling, seconded by Mrs. Graf, and carried unanimously, Be It Resolved that the Riverside Township Board of Education hereby approves the following out of district student placements for the 2023-2024 school year, as listed.

<u>ID#</u>	<u>Placement</u>	<u>Annual Tuition</u>
281005	B.C. Special Services School	\$45,087.00
260061	Yale School/Cherry Hill	\$63,399.60

VOTE-Aye: D. Graf, T. McElroy, S. Parker, M. Pinho, S. Pinho, J. Sierra, B. Winerling, R. Wrice, S. Wrice
Nay: 0
Carried

HIB

On the motion by Mrs. Winerling, seconded by Mrs. Graf, and carried unanimously, Be It Resolved that the Riverside Township Board of Education hereby approves the Harassment, Intimidation and Bullying Report for November 2023, as attached.

VOTE-Aye: D. Graf, T. McElroy, S. Parker, M. Pinho, S. Pinho, J. Sierra, B. Winerling, R. Wrice, S. Wrice
Nay: 0
Carried

PROGRAM

Emergency Action Plan

On the motion by Mrs. S. Pinho, seconded by Mrs. M. Pinho, and carried unanimously, Be It Resolved that the Riverside Township Board of Education hereby approves the revised Emergency Action Plan for Riverside School District Athletics Program, as presented.

VOTE-Aye: D. Graf, T. McElroy, S. Parker, M. Pinho, S. Pinho, J. Sierra, B. Winerling, R. Wrice, S. Wrice
Nay: 0
Carried

POLICY

One Reading

On the motion by Mrs. Winerling, seconded by Mrs. S. Pinho, and carried unanimously, Be It Resolved that the Riverside Township Board of Education hereby suspends Bylaw 0131 that requires two readings, to adopt new policy 0164.2, with one reading, as presented.

VOTE-Aye: D. Graf, T. McElroy, S. Parker, M. Pinho, S. Pinho, J. Sierra, B. Winerling, R. Wrice, S. Wrice
Nay: 0
Carried

Preschool Education Aid Program Plan

On the motion by Mrs. Winerling, seconded by Mrs. S. Pinho, and carried unanimously, Be It Resolved that the Riverside Township Board of Education hereby approves the Three-Year Preschool Program Plan for 2023-2024, as presented.

VOTE-Aye: D. Graf, T. McElroy, S. Parker, M. Pinho, S. Pinho, J. Sierra, B. Winerling, R. Wrice, S. Wrice
Nay: 0
Carried

COMMITTEE REPORTS

PERSONNEL & EMPLOYEE RELATIONS – The committee met and discussed personnel contracts.

FINANCE & INSURANCE – No Report

BUILDINGS & GROUNDS –No Report

ATHLETICS – No Report

CURRICULUM – No Report.

SAFETY & SECURITY – No Report

STUDENT GOVERNMENT – No Report

DELEGATE TO BURLINGTON COUNTY SCHOOL BOARDS – No Report

DELEGATE TO NEW JERSEY SCHOOL BOARDS ASSOCIATION – No Report

DELANCO REPRESENTATIVE – No Report

Acknowledgement of Visitors –None

Mr. O’Brien thanked the Board of Education for approving his contract.

Mrs. Winerer thanked Mr. McElroy and Mrs. M. Pinho for their service on the board.

ADJOURNMENT

On the motion by Mrs. M. Pinho, seconded by Mrs. S. Pinho, and carried unanimously, the meeting was adjourned at 8:07 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Robert O’Brien
Board Secretary