

**WORK SESSION/BUSINESS MEETING JANUARY 6, 2022
RIDGEFIELD SCHOOL DISTRICT
555 CHESTNUT STREET, RIDGEFIELD, NJ 07657**

A Work Session/Business Meeting of the Ridgefield Board of Education was held on January 6, 2022. This meeting was held remotely as per guidelines to the public posted on the Ridgefield School District’s website. The meeting was called to order by Mr. Jacobs.

I. CALL TO ORDER

At 7:22 PM the meeting was called to order.

II. FLAG SALUTE

The Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America was recited.

III. OPEN PUBLIC MEETING STATEMENT

“The New Jersey Open Public Meeting Law was enacted to ensure the right of the public to have advanced notice of and to attend the meeting of public bodies at which any business affecting their interests is discussed or acted upon. In accordance with the provisions of this Act, the Ridgefield Board of Education has caused notice of this meeting to be published by having the date, time and place thereof posted at the Administration Building, and having notified The Record, The Star Ledger and the Ridgefield Borough Clerk”.

Ms. Ortiz may we have a roll call please.

IV. ROLL CALL

Mr. Grippa	Present
Mrs. Inan	Present
Mr. Morilla	Present
Mrs. Narvaez	Present
Mr. Pych	Present
Mr. Jacobs	Present
Dr. Ryu	Present

Also present were:

Dr. Letizia Pantoliano – Interim Superintendent of Schools

Julyana Ortiz – Business Administrator/Board Secretary

V. Motion to Convene in EXECUTIVE CLOSED SESSION for School Board Training, Personnel, Legal, Negotiations, Attorney/Client Privilege and/or Student Matters items, at 7:25 p.m.

Motion made by Mr. Pych, seconded by Mr. Morilla.

Motions passed unanimously by Board Members present.

BE IT RESOLVED by the Ridgefield Board of Education, pursuant to the provisions of the Open Public Meetings Act, that the Board meet in closed session to discuss the following subject matter(s), which is (are) permitted to be discussed in closed session pursuant to the following designated sub-section(s) of Section 7 of the Open Public Meetings Act-

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- () Sub-section 1 dealing with material rendered confidential by express provision of Federal or State law.
- () Sub-section 2 covering a matter in which release of information would impair a right to receive federal funds.
- () Sub-section 3 involving disclosure of material that would constitute an unwarranted invasion of privacy, including material related to an individual's personal and family circumstances, without the express written consent of the individual involved.
- () Sub-section 4 pertaining to collective bargaining agreements and the terms, conditions and negotiations thereof.
- () Sub-section 5 dealing with the acquisition of real property, the setting of bank rates, or the investment of public funds where discussion thereof would adversely affect the public interest.
- () Sub-section 6 dealing with tactics and techniques used in protecting the safety and property of the public where disclosure could impair such protection or investigation of violation of the law.
- (X) Sub-section 7 dealing with pending or anticipated litigation, contract negotiations, or matters falling within the attorney-client privilege.
- (X) Sub-section 8 concerning student matters and/or personnel matters dealing with employment, appointment, termination, or terms and conditions of employment of any person or persons, or the evaluation, promotion or disciplining of employees unless all employees involved consent to disclosure thereof.
- () Sub-section 9 involving deliberations after public hearing on a matter, which may result in the imposition of a civil penalty or the suspension or loss of a license.

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that, as precisely as can be determined at this time, the discussion conducted in the said closed session can be disclosed to the public upon taking final action thereon, provided disclosure shall not violate the attorney-client privilege, impair the safety and property of the public or constitute an undue invasion of privacy; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that it is envisioned that the Board will return to open session after this closed session meeting.

VI. PUBLIC BOARD MEETING reconvened at 7:47 p.m.

A. Student Liaison – Sophia Narvaez

Ms. Narvaez reported on the following school activities (see attached report).

VII. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT, PRESENTATIONS AND DISCUSSION ITEMS –

1. Approval of School Self-Assessments for Determining Grades under the Anti-Bullying Bill of Rights Act for the 2020-2021 School Year

Dr. Pantoliano reported on the school assessments for determining bullying. The highest possible score is 78. Bergen received 75 out of 78, RMHS 75 out of 78, Shaler 75 out of 78, and Slocum 73 out of 78. All results are one point higher than last year's.

Dr. Pantoliano informed that five high school students received out-of-school suspensions due to vandalism. All families were notified and restitution has been made.

Dr. Pantoliano advised that a re-registration to prove residency is in progress beginning with our students attending out-of-district placements. Next two grades will be selected randomly to prove residency and this will continue until all students have proved Ridgefield residency.

The Start Strong Assessments results for individual students was sent home to parents.

2. Approval of ARP – ESSER Safe Return Plan (Six Month Update)

Dr. Pantoliano explained that the State wants reassurance that our school has the capability if we have to pivot to remote instruction. The plan is posted online. She said we have the student centered learning acceleration program as well as increase time on task if needed. This will be the second summer we offer summer academy for our students. All fifth through twelfth grade students bring tech devices home each night. Ridgefield has devices for Pre-K through fourth in school should it be needed for remote learning. She said the Ridgefield School District is in good shape. All students and staff are participating in programs surrounding mental health initiatives. The ARP – ESSER grant have funding to support technology. Bergen Tech. has been helping to support technology program all under the auspicious of Julyana Ortiz. Technology and all components are going well.

VIII. BOARD COMMITTEE REPORTS -

- B. Finance Committee – **N/R**
- C. Curriculum Committee – **N/R**
- D. Operations Committee – **N/R**
- E. Personnel Committee – **N/R**
- F. Policy Committee – **N/R**
- G. NJSBA/Legislative Delegate – **N/R**
- H. Technology Committee – **N/R**

IX. TOPICS FOR DISCUSSION -

X. Motion to move into PUBLIC COMMENTS/QUESTIONS Session of the Meeting

(Resolutions and Discussion Items Only).

Motion Made by Mr. Grippa, seconded by Mrs. Inan.
Motions passed unanimously by Board Members present.

Statements made by individual participants are limited to a duration of five (5) minutes unless otherwise announced at the beginning of the discussion. The Board urges large groups to select one person to represent them. The Board reminds those individuals who take the opportunity to speak to please type their question into the “chat” box, identify themselves by name and address, and to limit their comment to items listed on the agenda. The Board may or may not respond to issues raised by members of the public. All comments will be considered and a response will be forthcoming if and when appropriate. The Board asks all members of the public to be courteous and mindful of the rights of other individuals when speaking. Specifically, the Board discourages comments regarding students and employees and will not respond to such comments. Please note that after the public discussion is closed by the President, no other questions or

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comments from the audience will be permitted until the “Questions and Comments from the Audience on Any Topic of Concern” at the end of the agenda. At that time, questions do not have to be confined to agenda items.

Motion to close **PUBLIC COMMENTS/QUESTIONS** Session of the Meeting.

Motion Made by Mr. Grippa seconded by Mr. Pych.
Motions passed unanimously by Board Members present.

XI. BOARD COMMENTS ON RESOLUTIONS AND DISCUSSION ITEMS ONLY.

XII. OLD BUSINESS

XIII. RESOLUTIONS FOR ACTION

1. CONSENT RESOLUTION – Roll Call

Motion to approve the following consent items 2,3,4,5,6,7,8,9,10,11,12,13,14,15,16,17,18,19,20,21,22,23,24,25,26,27 and 28:

Motions made by Dr. Ryu, seconded by Mrs. Narvaez.
Motions passed unanimously by Board Members present.

Ms. Ortiz may we have a roll call please.

. ROLL CALL

Mr. Grippa	Aye
Mrs. Inan	Aye
Mr. Morilla	Aye
Mrs. Narvaez	Aye
Mr. Pych	Aye
Mr. Jacobs	Aye
Dr. Ryu	Aye

FINANCE – (Item 2)

2. BILL LIST – Consent

BE IT RESOLVED, that upon the recommendation of the Interim Superintendent of Schools, the Ridgefield Board of Education approves the bill list from the month of January 2022:

January 6, 2022 Vendor Batch 1 \$388,725.65

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STUDENT SERVICES – (Item)

CURRICULUM – (Item 3)

3. APPROVAL OF WORKSHOP EXPENDITURES - Consent

BE IT RESOLVED, that upon the recommendation of the Interim Superintendent of Schools, the Ridgefield Board of Education approves the following workshop participation and expenditures:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Workshop</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Fee</u>
Jasmine Yoo	Surviving to Thriving: STEM Ideas & Inspiration	Ewing Township	1-13-22	\$44.06
Chrisann Foley	Decrease Attention Getting Behaviors	Long Branch	2-10-22	\$279.00
Kerry Chinigo	A Roadmap to Integrating AAC Into the Classroom	Webinar	-	\$99.00
Kerry Chinigo	Effective Solutions to Ethical Dilemmas in AAC	Webinar	-	\$99.00
Kerry Chinigo	Improving AAC for Children	Webinar	-	\$50.00

OPERATIONS – (Items 4-5)

4. APPROVAL OF USE OF FACILITIES – Consent

BE IT RESOLVED, that upon the recommendation of the Interim Superintendent of Schools, the Ridgefield Board of Education approves the following Use of Facility Request:

- A. Ridgefield Recreation revised use the Gym on Monday through Fridays for Basketball/Soccer Practice starting January 3, 2022 – March 18, 2022 - 6:00 p.m. – 9:30 p.m. (subject to availability and when school is open).

5. APPROVAL OF ARP - ESSER SAFE RETURN PLAN - Consent

BE IT RESOLVED, that upon the recommendation of the Interim Superintendent of Schools, the Ridgefield Board of Education approves the ARP – ESSER Safe Return Plan – Six Month Update for the 2021-2022 school year:

PERSONNEL – (Items 6-27)

6. APPOINTMENT OF KRISTEN D’ELIA AS FULL TIME TEACHER ASSISTANT SLOCUM SKEWES SCHOOL – Consent

BE IT RESOLVED, that upon recommendation of the Interim Superintendent of Schools, the Ridgefield Board of Education appoints Kristen D’Elia as a full time teacher assistant at Slocum Skewes School at step 1, pro-rated beginning January 7, 2022 through June 30, 2022:

7. **APPOINTMENT OF NAZMA HAQUE AS PART TIME TEACHER ASSISTANT AT SHALER ACADEMY** – Consent

BE IT RESOLVED, that upon recommendation of the Interim Superintendent of Schools, the Ridgefield Board of Education appoints Nazma Haque as a part time teacher assistant at Shaler Academy, pending criminal history approval, with a start date TBD:

8. **APPROVAL TO RESCIND CASEY FISHER AS A PART TIME TEACHER ASSISTANT** – Consent

BE IT RESOLVED that upon recommendation of the Interim Superintendent of Schools, the Ridgefield Board of Education approves to rescind Casey Fisher as a part time teacher assistant effective retroactive from December 13, 2021:

9. **APPROVAL OF UNPAID MEDICAL LEAVE OF ABSENCE FOR MAIDA WEISMAN** – Consent

BE IT RESOLVED that upon recommendation of the Interim Superintendent of Schools, the Ridgefield Board of Education hereby approves an unpaid medical leave of absence for Maida Weisman beginning retroactive from December 20, 2021 through January 7, 2022 with an anticipated return date of January 10, 2022.

10. **APPROVAL OF UNPAID MEDICAL LEAVE OF ABSENCE FOR GIUSEPPE CACIOPPO** – Consent

BE IT RESOLVED that upon recommendation of the Interim Superintendent of Schools, the Ridgefield Board of Education hereby approves an unpaid medical leave of absence for Giuseppe Cacioppo beginning January 20, 2022 through January 31, 2022:

11. **ACCEPTANCE OF RESIGNATION OF GIUSEPPE CACIOPPO** - Consent

BE IT RESOLVED, that upon the recommendation of the Interim Superintendent of Schools, the Ridgefield Board of Education accepts the resignation of Giuseppe Cacioppo, teacher (for retirement purposes), effective February 1, 2022:

12. **ACCEPTANCE OF RESIGNATION OF KYRIAKI KAULLA** - Consent

BE IT RESOLVED, that upon the recommendation of the Interim Superintendent of Schools, the Ridgefield Board of Education accepts the resignation of Kyriaki Kaoulla, full time teacher assistant (for retirement purposes), effective July 1, 2022:

13. **ACCEPTANCE OF RESIGNATION OF NOELLE EVELINA** - Consent

BE IT RESOLVED, that upon the recommendation of the Interim Superintendent of Schools, the Ridgefield Board of Education accepts the resignation of Noelle Evelina, full time teacher assistant effective January 10, 2022:

14. ACCEPTANCE OF RESIGNATION OF CORINNA CARDONE - Consent

BE IT RESOLVED, that upon the recommendation of the Interim Superintendent of Schools, the Ridgefield Board of Education accepts the resignation of Corinna Cardone, teacher, effective February 21, 2022:

15. ACCEPTANCE OF RESIGNATION OF PAULINE MENDEZ - Consent

BE IT RESOLVED, that upon the recommendation of the Interim Superintendent of Schools, the Ridgefield Board of Education accepts the resignation of Pauline Mendez, part time teacher assistant effective retroactive from December 16, 2021:

16. APPOINTMENT OF BEFORE AND AFTER CARE STAFF FOR THE 2021-2022 SCHOOL YEAR- Consent

BE IT RESOLVED, that upon the recommendation of the Interim Superintendent of Schools, the Ridgefield Board of Education appoints the following staff to the before and after care program for the 2021-2022 school year:

The following teachers to work on an as needed basis at a rate of \$21.00 per hour:

Allison Neumann
Toni-Ann Veniero

17. APPROVAL OF EXTRA SERVICE APPOINTMENTS- Consent

BE IT RESOLVED, that upon the recommendation of the Interim Superintendent of Schools, the Ridgefield Board of Education approves the following extra service appointments:

<u>Staff</u>	<u>Position</u>	<u>Step</u>
Frank Sarmiento	Basketball – Junior School (Girls)	1
Isaac Archbold	Basketball – Junior School (Boys)	1

18. APPOINTMENT OF DISTRICT SUBSTITUTE TEACHERS - Consent

BE IT RESOLVED, that upon the recommendation of the Interim Superintendent of Schools, the Ridgefield Board of Education appoints the following as district substitute teachers, at a rate of \$150/day to be used on an as need basis, beginning January 10, 2022 through June 30, 2022:

Lisa Brennan (pending criminal history approval)
Luke Becker (pending criminal history approval)
Ann Useloff

19. APPOINTMENT OF DOMINICK PICINICH AS A PART TIME CUSTODIAN AT SHALER ACADEMY - Consent

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BE IT RESOLVED, that upon the recommendation of the Interim Superintendent of Schools, the Ridgefield Board of Education appoints Dominick Picinich as a part time custodian at Shaler Academy, beginning January 6, 2022 through June 30, 2022:

20. **APPOINTMENT OF AXEL FERDINAND AS HEAD CUSTODIAN AT BERGEN BLVD. SCHOOL** - Consent

BE IT RESOLVED, that upon the recommendation of the Interim Superintendent of Schools, the Ridgefield Board of Education appoints Axel Ferdinand as a head custodian at Bergen Blvd. School, beginning January 6, 2022 through June 30, 2022:

21. **APPROVAL OF REVISION OF NURSES TO COMPLETE CONTACT TRACING/COVID PAPERWORK** – Consent

BE IT RESOLVED, that upon the recommendation of the Interim Superintendent of Schools, the Ridgefield Board of Education approves the revision of the following nurses to complete up to forty (40) extra service hours of contract tracing and/or COVID paperwork, at a rate of \$29.46/hr., during the 2021-2022 school year:

LeeAnn Papadoupalos
Hiyoung Kim
Stella Jeon
Lindy Gelber
Margaret Caruso

22. **APPOINTMENT OF ALEXANDRA GLEASON AS A PSD/AUT TEACHER AT SHALER ACADEMY** – Consent

BE IT RESOLVED, that upon the recommendation of the Interim Superintendent of Schools, the Ridgefield Board of Education hereby appoints Alexandra Gleason as a PSD/AUT teacher at Shaler Academy at a pro-rated salary of BA step 3 beginning January 18, 2022 through June 30, 2022:

23. **APPOINTMENT OF MARIA VASQUEZ AS A CHILD STUDY TEAM SECRETARY AT SLOCUM SKEWES SCHOOL** – Consent

BE IT RESOLVED, that upon the recommendation of the Interim Superintendent of Schools, the Ridgefield Board of Education hereby appoints Maria Vasquez as a child study team secretary at Slocum Skewes School at a pro-rated salary of step 7 beginning January 7, 2022 through June 30, 2022:

24. **APPROVAL OF EXTENSION OF MEDICAL LEAVE OF ABSENCE FOR JANNINE MINERVINI** – Consent

BE IT RESOLVED, that upon the recommendation of the Interim Superintendent of Schools, the Ridgefield Board of Education hereby approves an extension of an unpaid family leave of absence

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for Jannine Minervini, for the care of a family member, of twelve (12) weeks in accordance with the New Jersey Family Leave Act (NJFLA) and the Federal Family and Medical Leave Act (FMLA), beginning retroactive from January 3, 2022 with an anticipated return date of January 26, 2022

25. APPOINTMENT OF DON EUN YUN AS PART TIME TEACHER ASSISTANT - Consent

BE IT RESOLVED, that upon the recommendation of the Interim Superintendent of Schools, the Ridgefield Board of Education hereby appoints Don Eun Yun as a part time teacher assistant, at Bergen Blvd. School, pending criminal history background check, with a start date TBD:

26. APPROVAL OF NEW SUBSTITUTE RATES – Consent

BE IT RESOLVED, that upon the recommendation of the Interim Superintendent of Schools, the Ridgefield Board of Education approves the following new substitute rates effective January 3, 2022:

	Previous Rate	New Rate
Substitute Teacher	\$ 110.00	\$ 150.00
Learning Center Substitute Teacher	\$ 110.00	\$ 225.00
TA Substitute Teacher	\$ 40.00	\$ 60.00
Substitute Teacher Aide	\$ 85.00	\$ 90.00
Permanent Substitute Teacher	\$ 120.00	\$ 160.00

27. ACCEPTANCE OF RESIGNATION OF PHYLLIS RUTS-GRECO - Consent

BE IT RESOLVED, that upon the recommendation of the Interim Superintendent of Schools, the Ridgefield Board of Education accepts the resignation of Phyllis Ruts-Greco, full time teacher assistant (for retirement purposes), effective July 1, 2022:

POLICY – (Item 28)

28. APPROVAL OF REVISION OF SECOND READING AND ADOPTION OF NEW POLICY #1648.14 – SAFETY PLAN FOR HEALTHCARE SETTINGS IN SCHOOL BUILDINGS – COVID-19 - Consent

BE IT RESOLVED, that upon the recommendation of the Interim Superintendent of Schools the Ridgefield Board of Education approves the revision of the second reading and adoption of the new policy #1648.43 – Safety Plan for Healthcare Settings in School Buildings – COVID-19:

LEGAL – (Item)

- XIV.** Motion to move into **PUBLIC COMMENTS/QUESTIONS** Session of the meeting (any items).

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Motion made by Mrs. Narvaez, seconded by Mr. Grippa
Motion passed unanimously by Board Members present.

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XV. Motion to close **PUBLIC COMMENTS/QUESTIONS** Session of the meeting.

Motion made by Dr. Ryu, seconded by Mr. Psych.
Motion passed unanimously by Board Members present.

XVI. NEW BUSINESS

XVII. ADJOURNMENT

Motion to adjourn the business meeting of the Board of Education at 8:03 p.m.

Motion Made by Mr. Grippa, seconded by Dr. Ryu.
Motions passed unanimously by Board Members present.

Respectfully submitted,

Julyana Ortiz
Business Administrator/Board Secretary

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