

River Valley Board of Education
RIVER VALLEY SCHOOL DISTRICT
15480 Three Oaks Road
Three Oaks, Michigan 49128
www.rivervalleyschools.org

Regular Meeting – RV Middle/High School Library
Monday, May 22, 2017 @ 7:00 p.m.

Minutes

Members Present: Phillip Bender, Cheryl Capiak, Michael Ehlert, Vickie Wagner, David Whitlow

Members Absent: Fred Knutel, John Pawlik

Administrators Present: Superintendent William Kearney, Business Manager Brian Brown, Elementary Principal Heidi Clark, Middle/High School Principal Patrick Breen, and Assistant Middle/High School Principal Jim Wiseley

1.0 Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Vice President Wagner.

2.0 Pledge of Allegiance

Vice President Wagner led the audience in the Pledge of Allegiance.

3.0 CONSENT AGENDA

3.1 Approval of Agenda as Presented

Approved the agenda for the May 22, 2017 regular Board meeting.

3.2 Approve Workshop Minutes of May 8, 2017

Approved workshop minutes.

3.3 Approve Superintendent's Monthly Travel Reimbursement Request

Approved Superintendent Kearney's travel reimbursement total of \$164.78 for April 18 – May 12, 2017.

3.4 Approve Recommendation to Hire a Varsity Cross Country Coach

Approved the employment of Matthew Dague.

3.5 Approve Recommendation to Hire an Assistant Varsity Cross Country Coach

Approved the employment of Mark Foreman.

3.6 Approve Head Coaching Recommendations for 2017-18 Fall/Winter Sports Season

Approved the following:

Football	Jason McDonnough
Cross Country	Matthew Dague
Volleyball	Kalla Shearer
Boys' Basketball	Jason Heckathorn
Girls' Basketball	Jason Alexander
Wrestling	James Hein

Moved by Ehlert, supported by Whitlow, to approve the consent agenda for May 22, 2017 regular Board meeting as presented. All Ayes. Motion carried.

4.0 Recognize Class of 2017 Top Academic Seniors

The Board recognized the Class of 2017 Top Academic Seniors: Chloe Naumann (Valedictorian), Mason Derkacy (Salutatorian), Allyson Olson, Christopher Reitz, Eric Boswell II, Ashley Jones, Abbie Hillman, Austin Payne, Angela Winstead, and Priscilla Lovison.

5.0 Recognize Staff Retirements

Superintendent Kearney announced the retirement of Paul Goodman, Middle/High School Counselor (34 years); Paula Donner, Elementary Teacher (26 years); and Cynthia Knuth, Teacher Assistant (15 years). The Board recognized them for their years of service to the district.

6.0 Presentations**6.1 Non-Core Curriculum Proposal**

Mr. Dague proposed a non-core curriculum proposal for art, music, business, and physical education departments. The materials were presented to the Board of Education at an overall cost of \$98,950.00. Board action will be taken at the next regular scheduled meeting.

6.2 District Wellness Plan Update

Elementary Principal, Heidi Clark, provided a district wellness plan update. A revision was made to the Wellness Plan replacing the Food Pyramid to My Plate/Tray Guide. She noted that wellness is a focus throughout the school year but it is not a mandate; resources and education are provided so that students can make choices.

7.0 Reports**7.1 Principals**

Each principal updated the Board on various activities/events occurring in their buildings and they provided an update on student achievement. The Board was also given a brief athletics update by the Middle/High School Principal.

7.2 Superintendent

Superintendent Kearney updated the Board on School Law Notes and Student Data Reports.

7.3 Curriculum/Policy Committee

Vickie Wagner, Curriculum/Policy Committee Chairperson, reported that the Committee met prior to the Board meeting on Monday, May 22, 2017. The Committee reviewed the policy/guideline revisions and recommended approval at the next regular scheduled meeting.

8.0 Hearing of Persons Present

No public comment was offered.

9.0 Correspondence

There was no correspondence.

10.0 Items for Board Action**10.1 Approve the Accounts Payable Report for May 2017 and the Treasurer's Report for April 2017**

Moved by Bender, supported by Capiak, to approve the Accounts Payable Report for May 2017 and the Treasurer's Report for April 2017 as presented by the Business Manager. All Ayes. Motion carried.

10.2 Adopt 2017-18 District Budget Resolution

Trustee Capiak questioned the Business Manager on numerous figures that he budgeted for next school year and asked for clarification to the increases to certain departments.

The Business Manager will compile the information and provide written clarification to all Board Members.

Moved by Whitlow, supported by Bender, to adopt the 2017-18 District Budget Resolution as presented by the Business Manager. Roll Call Vote: Bender – Aye, Capiak – Aye, Ehlert – Aye, Wagner – Aye, and Whitlow – Aye. Resolution adopted (5-0).

10.3 Approve Student Handbook Changes for 2017-18

Moved by Ehlert, supported by Capiak, to approve the 2017-18 Elementary and Middle/High School Student Handbook changes as recommended by the Building Principal and Superintendent. All Ayes. Motion carried.

10.4 Adopt Berrien RESA General Fund Operating Budget Resolution for 2017-18

Moved by Whitlow, supported by Bender, to adopt the Berrien RESA General Fund Operating Budget Resolution for 2017-18. Roll Call Vote: Bender – Aye, Capiak – Aye, Ehlert – Aye, Wagner – Aye, and Whitlow – Aye. Resolution adopted (5-0).

10.5 Adopt Berrien RESA Biennial Board of Education Resolution

Moved by Capiak, supported by Whitlow, to designate Fred Knutel as River Valley's representative to serve on the 2017 electoral body responsible for electing members to the Berrien RESA Board of Education and Phillip Bender as alternate representative. In addition, the Board supports candidate J. Allene Smith and Linda Holt for a position on the Berrien RESA Board of Education for a term of six years and directs our representative to vote for the candidate at the June 5, 2017 election. Roll Call Vote: Bender – Aye, Capiak – Aye, Ehlert – Aye, Wagner – Aye, and Whitlow – Aye. Resolution adopted (5-0).

10.6 Approve Teacher Tenure Recommendations

Moved by Capiak, supported by Ehlert, to approve Colby Caid, Matthew Cook, Matthew Dague, Heather Dellay, Mary Lynn Edwards, and Theresa Fitzpatrick for tenure status in the River Valley School District based on successful completion of their probationary period and the recommendation from the Building Principal and Superintendent. All Ayes. Motion carried.

10.7 Approve 2017-18 RVEA 5-CEA/MEA Master Agreement

Moved by Whitlow, supported by Ehlert, to approve the 2017-18 RVEA 5-CEA/MEA Master Agreement as recommended by the Superintendent. Roll Call Vote: Bender – Aye, Capiak – Aye, Ehlert – Aye, Wagner – Aye, and Whitlow – Aye. Motion carried (5-0).

11.0 Items for Board Discussion

11.1 Review Administrative/Supervisor Contracts

The Board was asked to review the recommended changes to the Administrative/Supervisory contracts before next month's meeting. Board action will be taken at the next regular scheduled meeting.

Discussion followed.

11.2 Review 2017-18 Administrative Salary Index and Support Staff Wage Schedule

The Board reviewed the Administrative Salary Index and Support Staff Wage Schedule for 2017-18 school year.

Discussion followed.

11.3 NEOLA Policy Revisions/Updates

The Board was asked to review the policy and guideline revisions recommended by NEOLA before next month's meeting. Superintendent Kearney informed the Board of an additional district guideline revision to travel reimbursements. Board action will be taken at the next regular scheduled meeting.

Discussion followed

12.0 Student Disciplinary Hearing

The Board held a student disciplinary hearing for student #520914. The district did not receive a request for a closed session, therefore the hearing was held in open session. Both the parents and student were not present. The following MHS administration was available to answer questions: MHS Principal, Patrick Breen; MHS Assistant Principal, Jim Wiseley and Special Education Coordinator, Michelle Sykora.

The Board was provided with various documents concerning discipline referrals, behavior contract, communication tally, and a recommendation from the MHS Administration. Discussion followed.

Moved by Bender, supported by Capiak, to suspend student #520914 for the remainder of the 2016-17 school year for violation of Michigan School Code Section 380.1311. Roll Call Vote: Bender – Aye, Capiak – Aye, Ehlert – Aye, Wagner – Aye, and Whitlow – Aye. Motion carried (5-0).

13.0 CLOSED SESSION – RE: Attorney-Client Privilege

Moved by Ehlert, supported by Bender, to go into closed session at 8:05 p.m. to discuss attorney-client privilege per Section 8(h) of the Open Meetings Act. Roll Call Vote: Bender – Aye, Capiak – Aye, Ehlert – Aye, Wagner – Aye, and Whitlow – Aye. Motion carried (5-0).

Moved by Capiak, supported by Bender, to return to open session at 8:53 p.m. Roll Call Vote: Bender – Aye, Capiak – Aye, Ehlert – Aye, Wagner – Aye, and Whitlow – Aye. Motion carried (5-0).

14.0 Adjournment

Moved by Capiak, supported by Ehlert, to adjourn the regular meeting for May 22, 2017 at 8:54 p.m. All Ayes. Motion carried.

David Whitlow, Secretary
River Valley Board of Education

DLW/bb