



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

Work Session – RV Middle/High School Library
Monday, January 18, 2010 @ 7:00 p.m.

MEETING MINUTES

- 1.0 Call to Order
The meeting was called to order by President German at 7:00 p.m. Members present: President German, Vice President Ehlert, Treasurer Petro, Trustee Wagner, Trustee Pfauth and Secretary Farhat. Trustee Knutel arrived at 7:07 p.m. during Agenda item 4.1. Superintendent Robert Schroeder and Business Manager Cheryl Capiak were also present.
- 2.0 Pledge of Allegiance
The Pledge of Allegiance was led by President German.
- 3.0 Consider Approval of Agenda as Presented
Motion by Pfauth, supported by Farhat, to accept the agenda as presented. **Motion carried unanimously.**
- 4.0 Superintendent's Report
 - 4.1 Suzi Jewell – Reading
Mrs. Jewell shared how the Heinemann program covers the “Big 5” in reading – phonemic awareness, phonics, fluency, vocabulary and comprehension. It is a supplementary program to assist those students with reading weaknesses. Mrs. Jewell passed around an exercise, to the Board members, to help demonstrate some of the difficulties that some children suffer from. The Heinemann program assists in identifying specific issues that the children have by grade level books either through individual, group or classroom settings. The books are set up in a progressive manner to help the children move forward with their reading as they move through the books. Mrs. Jewell also gave popcorn gifts to the Board members for School Board Recognition Week.
 - 4.2 Heidi Clark and Jeanne Carter – Promethean Board
Mrs. Clark and several students invited the Board to the Middle/High School Promethean Board Room to demonstrate how it works for classroom instruction, testing activities and for multi-media presentations. Incorporated into this demonstration, Mrs. Clark outlined the MiBLSi program and how positive reinforcement and guidance, improved student behavior. Students provided Board members with their own buckets filled with sweet treats for School Board Recognition Week.
- 5.0 Recognition of School Board Members
Superintendent Schroeder thanked Board Members for their service to the District and passed out “Certificates of Appreciation.”
- 6.0 Review Regular Meeting Minutes of December 14, 2009 and Special Meeting Minutes of January 5, 2010
The minutes were presented and they will be reviewed and approved at the next Regular Board Meeting.

- 7.0 Correspondence
There was no correspondence brought before the Board.
- 8.0 Buildings & Grounds
8.1 Next Citizens Committee Meeting
The next meeting will be held at the Middle/High School Library on Tuesday, January 26, 2010 at 6:30 p.m. There will be updated drawings and other information available. At that point, a decision needs to be made on whether or not to move forward.
- 9.0 Curriculum/Policy
9.1 Review Revisions to Board Policies
The Wireless Communication Device policy was passed out for review and it will be brought up for consideration at the next Board meeting. This policy has been in the works for 6 months but it took this long to present as NEOLA has been reviewing and compiling the policy.
- 9.2 Review Proposed Language Changes to District Transportation Procedures
New proposed language for the adverse weather condition policy was presented. Pick up points in the Galien Township School District/Buchanan Community School areas (when they themselves have closed) were proposed by Superintendent Schroeder. Locations in the Village of Galien were identified as possible locations for use so that transportation will still be provided to School of Choice students. This will be considered at the next Board meeting.
- 10.0 Finance
10.1 Review Accounts Payable for January 2010 and the Treasurer's Report for December 2009
Business Manager Capiak presented the Accounts Payable for January 2010 and the Treasurer's Report for December 2009 to the Board. The reports will be reviewed and approved at the next Board meeting.
- 10.2 Review First Quarterly Budget Update for FY 2010
Business Manager Capiak presented the First Quarter budget update, which reflected that the District's revenues will increase by \$146,061 (from Local, State and Federal revenue sources) and that the District's net expenditures will increase by \$85,107. This will leave a projected overall increase of \$60,955. The projected fund equity for June 30, 2010 is now \$1,663,628.
- 10.3 Review Donation to River Valley School District Endowment Fund
The Board was advised of a \$400 donation to the River Valley School District Endowment Fund from Phillip and Bonnie Miller of Sawyer. Superintendent Schroeder said that a "Thank You" note has been sent. This donation will be reviewed at the next Board meeting.
- 11.0 Personnel
The volleyball coaching positions were posted in the school and are now being advertised in the paper to garner more applicants.
- 12.0 Other
12.1 Regular School Election – May 4, 2010
Filing of the petitions to be on the May 4, 2010 ballot is Tuesday, February 9, 2010. There are two board positions up for election.
- 12.2 Shop in Michigan
Superintendent Schroeder shared that the primary funding of schools is sales tax and urged everyone to shop in Michigan to preserve school funding.

13.0 Items for Discussion Only

13.1 Mission and Vision Statements

Trustee Wagner will email the mission and vision statements to the Board members again for review to consider for the next Board meeting.

13.2 Trustee Wagner distributed an article from the South Bend Tribune regarding School of Choice numbers in Berrien County.

14.0 Adjournment

Motion made by Wagner, supported by Farhat, to adjourn the meeting at 8:18 p.m. **Motion carried unanimously.**

William G. Farhat, Secretary
River Valley Board of Education