



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, January 25, 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 Knutel, Trustee Wagner, Trustee Pfauth and Secretary Farhat. 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 Knutel, to accept the agenda as presented. **Motion carried unanimously.**
- 4.0 Public Comment on Agenda
Middle/High School Principal Wayne Warner advised that the Pep Band may be late for their performance for the Board tonight.
- 5.0 Consider Approval of Regular Meeting Minutes of December 14, 2009, Special Meeting Minutes of January 5, 2010 and Work Session Minutes of January 18, 2010
Motion by Wagner, supported by Pfauth, to approve the minutes as presented. **Motion carried unanimously.**
- 6.0 Superintendent's Report
 - 6.1 Student Board Representative Report
There was no student board representative report brought before the Board.
 - 6.2 River Valley Pep Band
Moved to Agenda Item 12.0
 - 6.3 Culinary Arts Report
Teacher Kim Fritz made a presentation regarding her Culinary Arts students participating in Lake Michigan College's Bistro on the Boulevard gingerbread house contest. An entry that was shaped like a castle garnered 2nd place and entries that were patterned after a beach house, a U.S.A. themed home and a "Flintstone" style home each received 3rd place awards. The class also prepared a brunch for the RV Senior Citizen Center Bus Drivers in December and visited IVY Tech College in South Bend to experience their Culinary Arts programs. RV's Culinary Arts program utilizes the Pro-Start Curriculum, which is endorsed by the Michigan Restaurant Association. This curriculum is thorough and includes a job shadow component. The ServSafe Certification is also taught at RV, which is a certification recommended to restaurants by the National Restaurant Association.

The 7th Grade Living Skills Class has been practicing with realistic dolls that mimic actual babies and their needs. During two of the three weekends that they were taken home by students, Mrs. Fritz had to go to the homes to fix the “crying” babies because they could not be consoled. The students were happy to have them at first but tired quickly after having to take them home and care for them. It was a good learning experience. They also completed sewing projects. Mrs. Fritz felt that the boys seemed to enjoy it more than the girls. They also worked on basic food preparation and fed the PTO organization with some of their creations.

7.0 Board Committee Reports

Citizens Committee will be meeting tomorrow night Tuesday, January 26, 2010.

8.0 Correspondence

There was no correspondence brought before the Board.

9.0 Old Business

9.1 Consider Revisiting Consolidation of Services Resolution

After confirming that River Valley would not need this previously adopted resolution/agreement due to the fact that the District does not receive Category 22B state funds, it was suggested that this resolution/agreement be rescinded. Motion by Farhat, supported by Petro, to rescind the Consolidation of Services Resolution/Agreement due to it not being needed. **Roll Call Vote: Pfauth – AYE, Farhat – AYE, Petro – AYE, Ehlert – AYE, German – AYE, Wagner – AYE, Knutel – AYE. Resolution rescinded (7-0).**

10.0 New Business

10.1 Consider Approval of Accounts Payable for January 2010 and the Treasurer’s Report for December 2009

The Accounts Payable for January 2010 and the Treasurer’s Report for December 2009 were presented at the Work Session on January 18, 2010. Motion by Wagner, supported by Knutel, to accept the reports as presented. **Motion carried unanimously.**

10.2 Consider Approval of First Quarterly Budget Update for FY 2010

The First Quarterly Budget Update for FY 2010 was presented at the Work Session of January 18, 2010. Motion by Ehlert, supported by Pfauth, to accept the Update as presented. **Motion carried unanimously.**

10.3 Accept Donation to River Valley School District Endowment Fund

The Board was advised of a \$400 donation to the River Valley School District Endowment Fund by Phillip and Bonnie Miller of Sawyer during the Work Session of January 18, 2010. Motion by Petro, supported by Farhat, to accept the donation with thanks. **Motion carried unanimously.**

10.4 Consider Approval of Board Policy Revision

Numerous revised Board policies were passed out for review at the Work Session of January 18, 2010. These policies have been in the works for 6 months but it took this long to present as NEOLA has been reviewing and compiling them. Motion by Wagner, supported by Farhat, to approve the Board policy revisions as presented. **Motion carried unanimously.**

10.5 Consider Approval of Proposed Language Changes to District Transportation Procedure

Moved by Farhat, supported by Wagner, to approve the changes to the procedure as presented at the Work Session of January 18, 2010. **Motion carried unanimously.**

11.0 Items for Discussion Only

11.1 Mission and Vision Statements

Trustee Wagner presented her suggestions regarding the language for a District Mission Statement and for a District Vision Statement. There was a general consensus that the mission statement would be:

“The Mission of River Valley School District is quality education.”

There was also a general agreement that the District Vision Statement would include:

“The River Valley School District will become an exemplary learning community that supports innovation and is committed to continuous improvement.”

“The River Valley School District will be a place where a collaborative community develops curriculum, instructional strategies and assessment to ensure all students learn.”

“The River Valley School District will address the academic, social, emotional and physical needs of its learners.”

“Through our high-quality career/technical education and college-preparatory academic core, River Valley School District prepares all students for college and career achievement.”

“To reach our goal, we will:

- Increase the percentages of all students who perform at the proficient levels in reading, mathematics and science on the MEAP, ACT and/or SAT.”

Discussion was also held on Key Practices and Core Values for students. Those suggestions, as well as the Mission and Vision statements, will be reviewed by the administration and their assessment/suggestions will be brought back to the Board for further review.

12.0 River Valley Pep Band

The River Valley Pep Band helped to further recognize the School Board members for their efforts by playing a song for the Board. Mrs. Wagner thanked the band for their outstanding performance.

13.0 Announcements

13.1 Michigan School Health Profile

Chikaming Elementary and the Middle School were selected to fill out the Michigan School Health Profile Survey.

14.0 Hearing of Persons Present

Elementary Principal Garry Lange stated that starting this month, the last Tuesday of every month will be a celebration of fine arts in the elementary schools. Each Tuesday will be a different grade. This month a 2nd Grade music program will be held at Chikaming Elementary beginning at 6 p.m. Recycling at both elementary schools has already been taking place; to assist them further, Buildings and Grounds Supervisor Bob Payne, has set up recycling dumpsters. Mid-year Dibbles tests have been given and teachers will be getting together next week along with a Berrien RESA representative to identify areas of improvement.

Wayne Warner – teachers have been working together on how to better utilize the Promethean Boards for educational opportunities.

15.0 Adjournment

Motion by Petro, supported by Wagner, to adjourn at 7:48 p.m. **Motion carried unanimously.**

William G. Farhat, Secretary
River Valley Board of Education