

River Valley Board of Education  
**RIVER VALLEY SCHOOL DISTRICT**  
15480 Three Oaks Road  
Three Oaks, Michigan 49128  
[www.rivervalleyschools.org](http://www.rivervalleyschools.org)

**Work Session– RV Middle/High School Library**  
**Monday, March 21, 2011 @ 6:00 p.m.**

**Minutes**

Members Present: J.C. German, Michael Ehlert, Victoria Pfauth, Ronald Petro, Blane Hillman, Fred Knutel, Vickie Wagner

Members Absent: None

**1.0 Call to Order**

The meeting was called to order by President German at 6:00 p.m.

**2.0 Pledge of Allegiance**

President German led the audience in the Pledge of Allegiance.

**3.0 Consider Approval of Agenda as Presented**

Motion by Knutel, supported by Hillman, to approve the agenda as presented. All ayes. Motion carried.

**4.0 Review Regular Meeting Minutes of February 21, 2011**

Minutes of the Regular Meeting of February 21, 2011, were reviewed.

**5.0 Correspondence**

There was no correspondence.

**6.0 Buildings and Grounds**

There was no Buildings and Grounds Committee Report.

**7.0 Curriculum/Policy**

Superintendent Schroeder reported on NEOLA updates and correspondence.

**7.1 NEOLA**

Schroeder reported on new NEOLA practices regarding review of policies. There will be training provided by Ben Smith. Schroeder also reported on correspondence received from NEOLA regarding their review of proposed Personnel policies that we had sent them.

**8.0 Finance**

**8.1 Review Accounts Payable for March, 2011, and the Treasurer's Report for February, 2011**

Business Manager Capiak presented the Accounts Payable for March, 2011 and the Treasurer's report for February, 2011. The reports will be reviewed and approved at the next Regular Board meeting.

**8.2 Consider 2010-2011 MSBO/MAPT Bus Purchasing Program Resolution**

The resolution of participation in the 2010-2011 Michigan School Business Officials (MSBO) and the Michigan Association for Pupil Transportation (MAPT) was reviewed, and it was agreed that it is to River Valley School District's advantage to be a member in this purchasing program. Motion by Wagner, supported by Petro, to adopt the resolution of membership in the MSBO/MAPT School Bus Purchasing Program. Roll call vote: Hillman-aye; Pfauth-aye; Petro-aye; Ehlert-aye; German-aye; Wagner-aye; Knutel- yes. Motion unanimously carried (7-0).

Capiak also recommended that the River Valley School District also earmark funds for the purchase of one bus with 2011-2012 funds. She reported that the deadline to issue a purchase order using the 2010-2011 MSBO/MAPT Bus Purchasing Program is April 15, 2011, with a delivery date of July, 2011.

**8.3 Consider Special Needs Van Purchase**

Capiak reported on the need to replace one of the Special Needs vans. Money will come from the 2010-2011 budget with some of the funds being transferred from money that had been earmarked for underground storage tank expenses that has not been expended. Motion by Knutel, supported by Ehlert, to purchase a 2010 Chrysler Town and Country LX seven passenger van for the amount of \$20,350 from Tyler Automotive. All ayes. Motion carried.

**9.0 Personnel**

**9.1 Personnel Committee Report – March 16, 2011**

The Personnel Committee met in the Superintendent's conference Room on March 16, 2011. The report of that meeting was given by Personnel Committee Chairperson, Fred Knutel. The Personnel Committee has submitted recommendations to hire Zac Robertson for the position of Girls' Junior Varsity Softball Coach and Karen Lubarski as a Bus Driver. The Personnel Committee discussed the announcement from NEOLA concerning a new way in which they will distribute policy information to school districts. A proposed personnel policy, submitted for NEOLA to review, was briefly discussed. Other issues discussed were contract extensions for administrative/supervisory personnel and the possible need to hire someone to take care of the River Valley School District lawns and athletic fields.

**9.2 Consider Recommendation to Hire Girls' Junior Varsity Softball Coach**

Motion by Knutel, supported by Hillman, to hire Zac Robertson as Girls' Junior Varsity Softball Coach. All ayes. Motion carried.

**9.3 Bus Driver Vacancy**

The Personnel Committee recommends hiring Karen Lubarski for the position of Bus Driver. The Board will consider this recommendation at the next regular meeting.

**9.4 Superintendent Search**

German reported on the tentative timelines submitted by MASB for the River Valley School District Superintendent Search.

**A. Posting Deadline Ended-March 16, 2011**

The deadline for candidates posting applications with the MASB was March 16, 2011.

**B. Candidate Screening**

Candidate screening will start taking place on March 21, 2011.

**C. Schedule First Round Interviews**

First-round interviews will need to be scheduled (tentative March 29-31).

**10.0 Other**

Schroeder reported on a grief counseling program offering a support group for grieving children and their families and our participation in Schools of Choice.

**10.1 Lory's Place**

Superintendent Schroeder has received communication from Mary Dunbar of The Pokagon Fund that they (TPF) have asked Lory's Place to consider providing the program to River Valley Schools at TPF expense. Lisa Bartoszek, Director of Lory's Place will make a presentation to the Board of Education at the Regular March Meeting.

**10.2 School of Choice Participation**

Superintendent Schroeder recommended that the River Valley School Board approve continuing participation in Schools of Choice for the fall of 2011.

**11.0 Items for Discussion Only**

**12.0 Announcements**

Schroeder announced dates and places for Kindergarten and Preschool registration. Mrs. Clark, Elementary Principal said that we would have 32 preschoolers.

**12.1 Kindergarten and Preschool Registration**

Kindergarten and Preschool registration information will be held at the following dates and times at the River Valley Elementary campuses

April 20, 2011 @ 6:00 p.m.—Three Oaks Elementary campus

April 21, 2011 @ 6:00 p.m.—Chikaming Elementary campus

\*\*Parents may attend either session or call the school.

Wagner asked Superintendent Schroeder if he has received any further updates regarding legislation that mandates outsourcing of food service, custodial and transportation services. Schroeder informed the Board that the last update he received no longer mandated privatization or acceptance of the lowest bid. However, the bill still requires school districts to bid out services.

Schroeder also announced upcoming changes in MEAP cut scores. Scoring will no longer be based on the four-level system of Advanced, Proficient, Partially Proficient, and Not Proficient. The new system will raise the cut scores for college/career readiness.

Wagner announced that the Mobile Food Pantry will be at New Buffalo Middle High School on March 22 and at River Valley Middle High School on April 19. The Pokagon Fund recently awarded \$18,000.00 to Feeding America West Michigan Food Bank for the Mobile Food Pantry Project.

**Recess before reconvening for MASB Workshop**

The Board went into recess at 6:40 p.m. and reconvened at 6:50 for the MASB work session.

**13.0 Michigan Association of School Boards Workshop – Scott Morrell, MASB Representative**

Scott Morrell, Adjunct Consultant for the MASB led the Board in a workshop. Topics of discussion were the roles and responsibilities of Board members, communications, the importance of strategic planning, and perceptions of Board members by the community.

**14.0 Adjournment**

Motion by Petro, supported by Hillman, to adjourn the meeting at 8:35 p.m. All ayes. Motion carried.

**Next Meeting: Regular Meeting, March 28, 2011 @ 7:00 p.m.**

Respectfully submitted,

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Victoria A. Pfauth, Secretary  
River Valley Board of Education