

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, October 18, 2010 at 7:00 p.m.

Minutes

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

1.0 Call to Order

President German called the meeting to order at 7:00 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

President German proposed the following revisions to the agenda: move Item 11.1 - Student Recognitions to 3.1 and add Item 9.3 - Michigan Leadership Institute Services.

Motion by Knutel, supported by Petro, to approve the revised agenda. All ayes. Motion carried.

3.1 Student Recognitions

Superintendent Schroeder offered congratulations to the following students for being named to Western Michigan University's Quincy Hilliard All-Star Middle School Band: Maddie Smith, Clarinet; Dane Wakefield, French Horn; and Evan Rieth, Tuba.

4.0 Review Regular Meeting Minutes of September 27, 2010

The Board reviewed the regular meeting minutes of September 27, 2010. The Board will approve these minutes at the next regular meeting.

5.0 Correspondence

None.

6.0 Buildings and Grounds

Schroeder reminded the Buildings and Grounds Committee members of the need for setting a meeting regarding what will happen between now and the election on February 22, 2011. The next Committee meeting was then scheduled for October 28, 2010 at 6:00 p.m.

7.0 Curriculum/Policy

The only item of concern was NEOLA policy updates. These will be discussed at a future time.

8.0 Finance

8.1 Finance Committee Report

The Finance Committee met today from 6:00 p.m. to 6:45 p.m. to discuss the District Audit Report.

8.2 Presentation of 2009-2010 District Audit Report

Alex Schaeffer, CPA, of Schaffer and Layher presented the 2009-2010 District Audit Report and distributed copies of the report to the Board and audience. Mr. Schaeffer stated that the report represented an "unqualified opinion" meaning the highest rating. The district also passed the Federal Single Audit. The district had to undergo a Federal Single Audit because we had received more than \$500,000.00 in Federal funds during the 2009-2010 school year.

8.3 Review Accounts Payable for October, 2010 and the Treasurer's Report for September, 2010

Business Manager Capiak reviewed the Accounts Payable for October, 2010 and the Treasurer's Report for September, 2010.

Wagner arrived at 7:20 p.m.

8.4 Review 2010-2011 Snow Removal Bid

Schroeder reviewed and recommended a snow removal bid from Oldenburg and Sons Excavating.

8.5 Consider Authorization to Apply for Title III Grant

Schroeder requested that we apply for these Special Education funds to help fund a part-time position that assists with English Language Learners at Berrien RESA.

8.6 Review Annual Measurable Achievement Objections (AMA Os) for English Language Learners

Schroeder reported that we do not have enough students to qualify.

9.0 Personnel

9.1 Personnel Committee Report

The Personnel Committee met at 4:00 p.m. on October 14, 2010. Schroeder reported that there is no need to hire an additional part-time Special Education bus driver at this time.

9.2 MASB Services

Superintendent Schroeder distributed a packet, from MASB, containing materials regarding staff search services.

9.3 Michigan Leadership Institute Services

Superintendent Schroeder distributed a summary sheet on services provided by the Michigan Leadership Institute. At the next Board meeting, additional information will be available for Board members to review. Schroeder commented that he believed that Bridgman and Buchanan districts had used these services in their recent searches.

10.0 Other

10.1 Review Anonymous Donation for New Middle School Football Jerseys

The District received a donation of \$1,300.00 from an anonymous donor for the purchase of football jerseys for the Middle School Football Program. The jerseys have been purchased and are being worn.

10.2 Review Donation to River Valley Fine Arts Fund

Mrs. Harriett Gibson donated \$500.00 to the River Valley Fine Arts Fund on behalf of the Berrien Community Foundation.

10.3 Review Donation of School Supplies from Lake Michigan Land Sharks

A donation of school supplies was given to Mr. Warner at the Middle School/High School from the Lake Michigan Land Sharks.

10.4 Review Anonymous Donation of School Supplies

An anonymous individual donated school supplies to the district for students in need.

10.5 Drier's Meat Market

Schroeder expressed appreciation to Carolyn Drier of Drier's Meat Market for the \$7.00 coupons given to River Valley students for the purchase of The Danger Box. A letter of thanks will be sent.

11.0 Announcement

Schroeder felt that the yearly audit had gone well and gave thanks to Cheryl Capiak for the success of the report.

12.0 Items for Discussion Only

Wagner announced that John Jenneau would like to offer tennis lessons to River Valley students. Schroeder advised that he will contact the Athletic Director.

Capiak announced that she has learned, from The Pokagon Fund, that there are funds available for field trips. Information on how to apply has been released. Each application will be evaluated.

Mrs. Clark said that there has been good student enthusiasm, at the elementary level, for the MEAP Test this year.

Mr. Warner reported that there was also good enthusiasm at the middle/high school for the MEAP Test. He also informed the audience that middle/high school parent-teacher conferences will be held Wednesday night in individual teachers' classrooms and Thursday night in the gymnasium. He said that a survey showed parents to be equally divided on their preference.

Hillman expressed appreciation to Mr. Latus for the enthusiasm he is generating among students through his work with the Astronomy Club. Wagner added that equipment for this group was funded through a grant from The Pokagon Fund.

Petro asked about the best ways to get local press coverage on school achievements now that there is no local paper in Three Oaks. Discussion followed.

13.0 Adjournment

Motion by Knutel, supported by Petro, to adjourn the meeting at 7:40 p.m. All ayes. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted.

Victoria A. Pfauth, Secretary
River Valley Board of Education