

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, May 16, 2011 @ 7:00 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 at 7:00 p.m. by Board President, J. C. German.

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 Ehlert, supported by Petro, to approve the agenda as presented. All ayes. Motion carried.

4.0 Review Regular Meeting Minutes of April 18, 2011, (Open & Closed Sessions) and Special Meeting Minutes of May 2 and 4, 2011

The minutes of the Regular Meeting of April 18, 2011, (Open & Closed Sessions) and Special Meeting Minutes of May 2 and 4, 2011 were reviewed. Corrections to the Special Meeting of May 2 were noted: Petro arrived at 6:52. Correction in the Regular Meeting Minutes of April 18, 2011, section 12.2, paragraph 7 should be read as, "Wagner encouraged other organizations in the District to apply for funds through The Pokagon Fund."

5.0 Correspondence

Superintendent Schroeder said that he would cover an item of correspondence in area 7.0 on the agenda.

6.0 Buildings & Grounds

6.1 Set Buildings & Grounds Committee Meeting

It was noted that the Buildings and Grounds Committee will need to meet in order to address concerns about the boiler.

7.0 Curriculum/Policy

7.1 Personal Finance Curriculum

Schroeder announced that the Dave Ramsey Personal Finance Program had been investigated and deemed to meet the needs of seniors needing an additional math class. The class will be taught in the Business Department. Fifth Third Bank Branch Manager, Rachel Lang, is seeking a grant to purchase the program. Schroeder informed the Board that River Valley will be receiving the Program, valued at \$5,000, at no cost to the District. Pfauth inquired about the levels of math incorporated in the course. The program will be reviewed for approval at the next regular meeting.

8.0 Finance

8.1 Review Accounts Payable for May, 2011 and the Treasurer's Report for April, 2011

Business Manager Capiak reviewed the Accounts Payable for May, 2011 and the Treasurer's Report for April, 2011. The reports will be reviewed and approved at the next regular meeting.

8.2 Consider Approval of Resolution for Public Notice of Hearing on the Proposed 2011-2012 Budget

Motion by Petro, supported by Ehlert, to adopt the Resolution for Public Notice of Hearing on the Proposed 2011-2012 Budget to be held on May 23, 2011 in the River Valley Middle/High School Library. Roll call vote: Knutel—Aye; Wagner—Aye; German—Aye; Ehlert—Aye; Petro—Aye; Pfauth—Aye; Hillman—Aye. All ayes. Resolution adopted (7-0).

8.3 Review Resolution for Berrien RESA General Fund Operating Budget for the 2011-2012 School Year

The Board reviewed a resolution supporting the Berrien RESA General Fund Operating Budget for the 2011-2012 School year and the attached budget detail sheet. Wagner inquired whether or not River Valley receives its share of the Career Education-Tech Prep Funds. The Resolution will be considered for adoption at the next regular meeting.

8.4 Set Finance Committee Meeting

The Finance Committee will meet in the Superintendent's Conference Room on Monday, May 23 at 6:00 p.m. to review the proposed 2011-2012 Budget with Business Manager Capiak. This meeting will be followed by a Hearing on the Proposed 2011-2012 Budget at 6:30 p.m. in the River Valley High School/Middle School Library.

9.0 Personnel

9.1 Review Head Coaching Recommendations for 2011-2012 Fall/Winter Sports

The Board reviewed Head Coaching recommendations for the 2011-2012 Fall and Winter Sports programs as submitted by Athletic Director, Neil Carter. Varsity Football—Jeff Degner, Varsity Cross Country—Mark Foreman; Varsity Volleyball—Jim Ragosta, Boys' Varsity Basketball—Shawn Gedert, Girls' Varsity Basketball—Zac Robertson, Wrestling—Alan Berget. These recommendations will be reviewed and considered at the next regular Board meeting.

9.2 Review Recommendations to Extend/Revise Administrative and Supervisory Contracts

Administrative and Supervisory contracts of Elementary Principal, Heidi Clark; 6-12 Assistant Principal and Title I Coordinator, Cynthia Ursprung; Business Manager, Cheryl Capiak; Working Food Supervisor, Teri Brown; and Buildings and Grounds Supervisor, Bob Payne were reviewed for contract language updates and extensions. Additional wording regarding the performance evaluation, including student growth & assessment, is included in the building principals' contracts.

9.3 Review Recommendation to Extend/Revise Excalibur Personnel Contract for Middle/High School Principal

Schroeder said that the Board would need to consider the revision/extension of our contract with Excalibur Personnel regarding the Middle/High School Principal.

9.4 Review Recommendation to Hire a Band/Choir Director

The Board reviewed the recommendation to hire Ryan Kasperski for the position of High School/Middle School Band and Choir Director. Four candidates were interviewed by the interview team. Two candidates were selected for second interviews. Mr. Schroeder said that he was informed by Mr. Kasperski that he will accept the offer of employment by River Valley for the position. Mr. Kasperski will come to River Valley with one year of previous teaching experience. The recommendation will be considered at the next regular Board meeting.

9.5 Review Recommendation to Hire a Boys' Junior Varsity Basketball Coach

The Board reviewed the recommendation to hire Caleb Dryden as Boys' Junior Varsity Basketball Coach.

9.6 Review Recommendation to Hire a Middle School Football Coach

The Board reviewed the recommendation to hire Caleb Dryden as a Middle School Football Coach.

9.7 Review Recommendation to Hire a Junior Varsity Football Coach

The Board reviewed the recommendation to hire Richard Jasso as a Junior Varsity Football Coach.

10.0 Other

10.1 Review 2011-2012 Handbook Changes

10.1.1 Elementary Student Handbook – no changes

There were no changes recommended in the Elementary School Handbook.

10.1.2 Middle/High School Student Handbook

The Board reviewed recommendations for change in the Middle/High School Student Handbook that would make it more closely align with the MiBLSi program being presently implemented in the River Valley District.

10.1.3 Athletic Handbook

The Board reviewed recommendations for change in the Athletic Handbook. Athletic Director Carter said that these changes would affect Middle School students who were new to the concept of eligibility. These changes would provide for weekly checks during nine-week marking periods. It provides for a probationary period of one week if an athlete shows two or more grades of "F". If determined to still be ineligible after the probationary period, the Middle School athlete then becomes ineligible from Monday through Saturday. Grades would be checked on a week-to-week basis until the athlete has no more than one failing grade. The student-athlete would become eligible starting Monday.

10.2 Review 2011-2012 Milk Bid Recommendation

Bids for the purchase of milk for the 2011-2012 year from four companies were presented. Scholl Dairy of Michigan City, Indiana was the only company offering a price quote.

10.3 Review Recommendation on Meal Prices for 2011-2012

Capiak reported that there would be no change in meal prices for the 2011-2012 school year, but she said that Federal guidelines are changing, and it may be necessary to make changes in meal prices for the 2012-2013 year.

10.4 Review Resolution for Berrien RESA Biennial Election

The Board reviewed the resolution for a representative from River Valley to represent the district by casting a ballot on behalf of the District in the Berrien County RESA Biennial Board Election. Linda Holt of the Lakeshore School District and J. Allene Smith of the Benton Harbor District are running for two seats on the Berrien County RESA Board of Education. Schroeder pointed out that Knutel has represented River Valley in the past; and Knutel agreed to represent the River Valley District at this election.

10.5 Review Request for Facilities Use for 2012 Apple Cider Century Bicycle Tour

The Board reviewed a request from Bryan Volstorf of the Three Oaks Spokes Bicycle Club to use the facilities at the Three Oaks Elementary campus on the dates of September 28, 29, and 30, 2012, for the Apple Cider Century Bicycle Tour.

11.0 Items for Discussion Only

11.1 Review Plans for River Valley High School Graduation – June 3, 2011 @ 7:00 p.m.

MS/HS Principal Warner announced the date and time of the River Valley High School Graduation ceremonies. Board members were all invited to participate in the presentation of diplomas. Board members should plan to meet in the Superintendent's Conference room by 6:30 p.m.

11.2 Discuss Board of Education Meeting Dates and Times for 2011-2012

The Board reviewed the proposed schedule of Board of Education Meetings for the 2011-2012 year.

12.0 Announcement

12.1 Congratulate Elected Board Members – J. C. German and Michael Ehlert (4 year terms)

Schroeder congratulated J. C. German and Michael Ehlert on their re-election to the River Valley Board of Education and thanked the other two candidates, Joe Zebell and Leo Jovanovic.

12.2 Second Round Interviews for Superintendent's Position – May 18, 2011 @ 6:00 p.m.

Board members received updated copies of candidate interview questions. The Board was also informed that if a member wants to add questions to the list, he/she should contact Dr. Dunham of MASB by e mail.

12.2.1 Community Meet & Greet Candidates – May18, 2011 from 3:00 to 4:30 p.m. (M/HS Cafeteria)

Reviewed the itinerary for second-round Superintendent Candidate district tours, meetings with administrators, community meet and greet sessions, and meetings with River Valley staff members, and candidate interviews. German will take candidates on tours of the River Valley District.

Ehlert asked if staff comment sheets would be available. German said that he would check on the matter.

Hearing of Persons Present:

Knutel commented on a newspaper article on tax cheaters and asked if River Valley would receive the school tax money recovered from the cheaters. Capiac said that River Valley should get the recovered money as long as we are an Out-of-Formula district.

Hillman commented on the seniors receiving scholarships at the Senior Recognition Night.

TEN MINUTE RECESS BEFORE GOING INTO CLOSED SESSION

13.0 Motion to Go Into Closed Session to Discuss Negotiations

Motion by Petro, supported by Hillman, to go into closed session at 7:47 p.m. to discuss negotiations. All ayes. Motion carried.

14.0 Motion to Return to Open Session

Motion by Petro, supported by Ehlert, to return to open session at 8:12 p.m. All ayes. Motion carried.

15.0 Adjournment

Motion by Wagner, supported by Petro, to adjourn the meeting at 8:13 p.m. All ayes. Motion carried.

Next regular meeting: May 23, 2011 at 7:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,