

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

**Regular Meeting – Middle/High School Library**  
**Monday, August 23, 2010 @ 7:00 p.m.**

**MINUTES**

Members Present: J. C. German, Michael Ehlert, Vicky Pfauth, Blane Hillman, Fred Knutel  
Members Absent: Ronald Petro, 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 the Approval of Agenda as Presented**

Superintendent Schroeder requested the addition of Item 10.8 to the agenda regarding the cooperative agreement with the Galien Township School District.

Motion by Knutel, supported by Ehlert, to accept the revised agenda as presented. All Ayes.  
Motion Carried.

**4.0 Public Comment on the Agenda**

None.

**5.0 Consider Approval of Regular Meeting Minutes of July 19, 2010 (Open and Closed Session) and Work Session Minutes of August 16, 2010**

Work Session minutes of August 16, 2010, were corrected to show that Ehlert arrived at the meeting at 7:02 p.m., and that Ehlert abstained from voting on Agenda Item 9.6.

Motion by Knutel, supported by Hillman, to approve the minutes as corrected. All Ayes. Motion Carried.

**6.0 Superintendent's Report**

Mrs. Fritz and Mrs. Kaniuga gave a slide presentation of the 2010 Eighth Grade trip to Washington D.C. Several of the students who went on the trip were in attendance at the Board meeting and gave favorable comments about their experience at the Capitol. Chaperones commented that our students conducted themselves in an exemplary way. They also commented that they want to repeat the experience of visiting the nation's capitol for the Eighth Grade class of 2010-2011. This request will be presented to the Board to review at the next Work Session.

**7.0 Board Committee Reports**

None.

**8.0 Correspondence**

None.

**9.0 Old Business**

None.

**10.0 New Business**

**10.1 Consider Buildings and Grounds Committee Recommendation**

At the August 16, 2010 Work Session, Buildings and Grounds Committee Chairman, Mike Ehlert, reported that the Committee felt that the results of the August 12 Bond Election were close enough to merit bringing the issue of constructing a new elementary building before the public again.

Motion by Knutel, supported by Hillman, to proceed with another bond election, for February, to bring this question to a vote of the public. All Ayes. Motion Carried.

**10.2 Consider Approval of Proposed Board Policy Revisions**

This was the second reading of a proposed policy update in which NEOLA recommended Board Policy updates containing changes regarding military leave, “sexting” and discrimination.

Motion by Ehlert, supported by Knutel, to approve the proposed Board Policy revisions. All Ayes. Motion Carried.

**10.3 Consider Approval of Accounts Payable for August 2010, and the Treasurer’s Report as of July 2010.** Board Member Hillman asked Business Manager, Cheryl Capiak, for clarification of Paradigm Equities (payroll accrual) charges on the Accounts Payable Report for August.

Moved by Ehlert, supported by Knutel, to approve the Accounts Payable for August 2010 and the Treasurer’s Report as of July 31, 2010. All Ayes. Motion Carried.

**10.4 Consider Request to Form a River Valley School District Jelinek Leadership Scholarship and Accept the Donation.** Motion by Ehlert, supported by Hillman, to accept the sum of \$20,000.00 from Michigan State Senator Ron Jelinek, to establish a leadership scholarship. All Ayes. Motion Carried.

**10.5 Accept Donation to River Valley Special Activities Fund-Berrien Community Foundation.** Motion by Knutel, supported by Ehlert, to accept \$200.00 to the River Valley Special Activities Fund in honor of Garry Lange and Ray Schroeder from Mark and Kris Harrington. All Ayes. Motion Carried.

**10.6 Consider One Candidate for the MASB Region 6 Board of Directors Election.** Motion by Ehlert, supported by Hillman, to support Candidate Renny R. Ransbottom for the MASB Board of Directors. All Ayes. Motion Carried.

**10.7 Consider Nomination to the Berrien RESA Special Education Parent Advisory Committee.** Motion by Knutel, supported by Ehlert, to nominate Mrs. Barbara Schuck as one of two of our District’s representatives to the Berrien RESA Special Education Parent Advisory Committee. All Ayes. Motion Carried. **\*\*Note:** Another name will be submitted for nomination at a later date.

**10.8 Consider Agreement to Continue Our Co-Operative Agreement With Galien Township Schools to Allow Their High School Students to Attend River Valley Classes.** Motion by Ehlert, supported by Knutel, to authorize Superintendent Schroeder to sign the documents which allow for the continuation of the Co-Operative Agreement between River Valley Schools and Galien Township Schools. All Ayes. Motion Carried.

**11.0 Items for Discussion Only**

Business Manager, Cheryl Capiak, recommended to the Board that we request grant funds, from The Pokagon fund, for the installation of heating and air conditioning for our Performing Arts Center. This money is in addition to the funds which were used for the purchase of Promethean Boards. German added that Carrier will send an engineer to study the project. This would be at no cost to the District. Bids would then be put out for the project.

Motion by Knutel, supported by Ehlert, to approve the submission of the grant application for installation of heating and air conditioning in the Performing Arts Center. All Ayes. Motion Carried.

**12.0 Hearing of Persons Present**

**12.1** Middle/High School Science Teacher, Pam Kaniuga, thanked Mr. Warner and the Board of Education for allowing her to purchase new lab equipment with curriculum funds which had been allocated.

**12.2** Mr. Warner announced that District teaching staff will attend a curriculum camp prior to the start of the school year. They will work on alignment of curriculum as it relates to areas tested on the MEAP and MME.

**13.0 Adjournment**

Motion by Ehlert, supported by Knutel, to adjourn the meeting at 7:33 p.m. All Ayes. Motion Carried.

Respectfully submitted

---

Victoria A. Pfauth, Secretary  
River Valley Board of Education