

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 – Middle/High School Library  
Monday, September 20, 2010 @ 7:00 p.m.**

**MINUTES**

Members Present: Knutel, Wagner, German, Elhert, Perto, Hillman

Members Absent: Pfauth

Superintendent Schroeder and Business Manager Capiak were in attendance.

President German called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Hillman was appointed acting secretary.

Moved by Knutel, supported by Petro, to accept the agenda as presented. All Ayes. Motion carried.

The Board reviewed the regular meeting minutes of August 23, 2010. No additional corrections were made. The Board will approve these minutes at the next regular meeting.

President German announced that the Board received correspondence from Mary Ann Chartrand from the Michigan Department of Education regarding our Summer Food Service Program.

Superintendent Schroeder discussed having a Board representative sit on a legislative committee with Berrien County RESA. Further discussion at the next regular meeting.

Business Manager Capiak provided financial reports. Petro asked if there was a way to track athletic funds separately from the general fund; Mrs. Capiak agreed to create a separate athletic fund report.

Trustee Wagner arrived at 7:05 p.m.

Superintendent Schroeder informed the Board that the funds from the countywide millage for special education, will run dry in 2012 due to decreasing funding. The Board will make a suggestion at the next regular meeting.

Ehlert moved that we accept the RVEA adjustments to Exhibits B and C as presented, supported by Knutel. All Ayes. Motion carried.

Superintendent Schroeder informed the Board that River Valley will meet with Michigan Department of Treasury on October 26, 2010 at 10:00 a.m. A Board representative will be selected at the next regular meeting.

A letter was received on the summer meal program praising the food service team for their excellent handling of the program.

Ehlert moved that we proceed with the application for a \$15,000,000 QSCB loan for a new elementary school and some renovations at the Middle/High School, Petro supported.

Roll call: Knutel---yes, Wagner---yes, German---yes, Ehlert---yes, Petro---yes, Hillman---yes. Motion carried (6-0).

Knutel moved that we hire Walter Yeske for a part-time Middle/High School Custodian position effective August 24, 2010, Petro supported. All Ayes. Motion carried.

Wagner moved that we hire Lori Payne for a Level II Cook position effective September 8, 2010, Knutel supported. All Ayes. Motion carried.

Ehlert moved that we hire Annde McDonnough for a First Grade Teacher position effective August 30, 2010, Knutel supported. 5 – Ayes. (Hillman abstained as he had a relative apply for that position) Motion carried.

Wagner moved that we hire Lori Payne for a Bus Driver position effective September 7, 2010, Knutel supported. All Ayes. Motion carried.

Superintendent Schroeder informed the Board that we have exchange students from the Netherlands and Thailand.

Also announced that Composer Quincy Hilliard will be working with Mr. Hay and our middle school band.

There will be a “Legislative Breakfast” October 11, 2010. If Board members want to attend, they must notify the office by September 29, 2010.

Graduation will be June 3, 2011. Motion will be made at the next regular meeting.

Ehlert moved that we approve an overnight eighth grade trip request to Washington D.C. (organized by Mrs. Kaniuga), Knutel supported. All Ayes. Motion carried.

Discussion of approval of other overnight trips will continue at the next regular meeting.

It was announced that Jerry Morgan donated various musical equipment to the school and the St. Joe Kickers Club donated some astro turf to the RV Football team.

The visit by author Blue Balliet to the River Valley School was discussed.

Wagner announced that The Pokagon Fund will consider requests to sponsor one day bus trips.

Superintendent Schroeder announced that River Valley will pilot a free breakfast program for one month made available to all RV students. Details to follow.

Superintendent Schroeder will be hosting a Community Meeting open to all residents to discuss the direction of the school. That meeting will be October 4, 2010 at 6:30 p.m. in the Middle/High School Library.

Principal Clark presented all Board members with navy River Valley T-shirts she had made.

Mrs. Kaniuga thanked the Board for approving the Washington D.C. trip, allowing her now to get started on fundraising activities.

Petro moved that we adjourn the meeting at 7:47 p.m., supported by Knutel. All Ayes. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted

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Blane Hillman, Acting Secretary  
River Valley Board of Education