

River Valley Board of Education
RIVER VALLEY SCHOOL DISTRICT
15480 Three Oaks Road
Three Oaks, Michigan 49128
www.rivervalleyschools.org

Regular Meeting – RV Middle/High School Library
Monday, December 19, 2011 @ 7:00 p.m.

Minutes

Members Present

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

Administrators Present

Superintendent William Kearney, Business Manager Cheryl Capiak, MHS Principal Wayne Warner, Elementary Principal Heidi Clark

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 Approval of Agenda as Presented

Moved by Hillman, supported by Knutel, to approve the agenda for the Regular Board Meeting of December 19, 2011 as presented. All Ayes. Motion carried.

4.0 Approval of Regular Meeting Minutes of November 21, 2011

Moved by Ehlert, supported by Petro, to approve the Regular Meeting Minutes of November 21, 2011. Wagner abstained due to her absence on November 21, 2011. Motion carried (6-0).

5.0 Reports

5.1 Student Representative

Student Representative, Heather Rowlinson, updated the Board on the different student activities such as the band and choir concerts and winter ball.

Trustee Hillman asked Ms. Rowlinson what grades participated in the winter ball. Ms. Rowlinson informed the Board that 9th-12th grade participated in this event.

5.2 Principals

Elementary Principal, Heidi Clark, provided an elementary report/update on the following: Foto Fest, Celebrations Around the World month, MEMSPA annual conference, World Book Access training, TEAMS program, and School Improvement Team.

Middle/High School Principal, Wayne Warner, provided a middle/high school report/update on the following: Culinary Arts, Personal Finance guest speaker, Forensics, English class field trip, Three Oaks Ford and the Ford Motor Company fundraiser, The Pokagon FUND Open House, MASSP conference, and an in-service on Autism.

Mr. Warner introduced Middle School Teacher, Debbie Wegner and High School Teacher, Jeff Degner, who recently attained tenure.

Trustee Petro asked if the in-service on Autism was part of the anti-bullying program. Trustee Wagner and Mr. Warner noted that a grant, from The Pokagon FUND, helped provide awareness on Autism to schools/public servants and that it was not an anti-bullying program.

5.3 Superintendent

Superintendent Kearney provided the Board of Education with an update on the following: resignation of Health/Physical Education Teacher, Richard Sullivan; interview process for the Health/Physical Education teaching position, Academic All-State football team, the state is estimating a surplus of \$1 billion for the 2010/11 fiscal year, exit/entry results and surveys, Administrative Council meeting agenda, School Equity Caucus, School Law Notes, Berrien RESA News Notes, Berrien Community Foundation (RV endowment fund), and outreach of help from the community for families in need.

5.4 Board Committees

Finance Committee Chairperson, Ronald Petro, announced that the committee met on Monday, December 19, 2011 at 6:15 p.m., in the Superintendent's conference room, to begin preliminary discussion of the 2012/13 budget.

6.0 Hearing of Persons Present

No public comment was offered.

7.0 Correspondence

Superintendent Kearney announced that he received the following correspondence: a letter of thanks from United Way for our school campaign gift of \$1,153.00; a letter of resignation/retirement from Richard Sullivan, MHS Health/Physical Education Teacher; a \$1,000.00 donation from a community member to provide a scholarship to an RV graduating senior, a donation from Mr. Schroeder for the men's basketball group that plays at Chikaming on Thursday nights; and a donation from BP Fabric of America on behalf of an employee who is also an RV parent.

8.0 Old Business**9.0 New Business****9.1 Approval of the Accounts Payable Report for December 2011 and the Treasurer's Report for November 2011.**

Business Manager, Cheryl Capiak, presented the Accounts Payable Report for December 2011 and the Treasurer's Report for November 2011.

Trustee Hillman questioned a purchase from Hewlett-Packard. Business Manager, Cheryl Capiak, informed the Board that the elementary staff members received new computers.

Trustee Hillman questioned a purchase from TEPE Sanitary Supply. Business Manager, Cheryl Capiak, informed the Board that two floor scrubbers were purchased for the elementary campuses.

Trustee Hillman also questioned a purchase from Dell Marketing. Business Manager, Cheryl Capiak, informed the Board that a new laptop was purchased for the Bus Mechanic to help diagnose the buses.

Trustee Wagner asked Business Manager, Cheryl Capiak, if anyone has spoken with the Berrien Community Foundation about their investment practices. Ms. Capiak agreed that the interest earned on investments has not been as great as in the past and that River Valley does not have a say on where the Berrien Community Foundation invests funds.

Moved by Hillman, supported by Ehlert, to approve the Accounts Payable Report for December 2011 and the Treasurer's Report for November 2011 as presented by the Business Manager. All Ayes. Motion carried.

9.2 Accept "School-of-Choice" Applications for 2012 Second Semester

Moved by Ehlert, supported by Knutel, to accept "School-of-Choice" applications for second semester from Monday, January 9, 2012 through Friday, January 20, 2012. All Ayes. Motion carried.

9.3 Approval of 80/20 Opt-in for Health Insurance Contribution

Moved by Petro, supported by Ehlert, to approve the 80/20 Opt-in for Health Insurance Contribution as recommended by the Superintendent of Schools. All Ayes. Motion carried.

9.4 Adopt Cooperative Education Program Agreement

Moved by Petro, supported by Pfauth, to adopt the Cooperative Education Program Agreement between Galien Township School District and River Valley School District. All Ayes. Motion carried.

10.0 Items for Discussion Only

Trustee Wagner announced that in addition to the Autism program, The Pokagon FUND donated \$50,000 to help feed the seniors in our area, \$25,000 in gift cards for the holiday season, \$8,000 for 'Toys for Tots', and \$2,000 to the Rotary Club for warm hats, mittens, and scarves for needy children.

11.0 Adjournment

Moved by Petro, supported by Hillman, to adjourn the Regular Meeting for December 19, 2011 at 7:33 p.m. All Ayes. Motion carried.

Victoria A. Pfauth, Secretary
River Valley Board of Education

VAP/bb