



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, November 17, 2008 @ 7:30 p.m.**

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**MINUTES**

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

**1.0 Call to Order**

President Farhat called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m.

**2.0 Pledge of Allegiance**

President Farhat led the audience in the Pledge of Allegiance.

**3.0 Approval of Agenda as Presented**

Moved by Petro, supported by Ehlert, to approve the agenda with the following changes: Item 10.10: Consider Approval of Recommendation to Hire a Teacher Assistant changed to Consider Acceptance of Resignation of Part-Time Bus Driver, Sherry Knapp. All Ayes. Motion carried.

**4.0 Public Comment on Agenda:** None.

**5.0 Consider Approval of Regular Meeting Minutes of October 27, 2008.** Moved by Petro, supported by Wagner. All Ayes. Motion carried.

**6.0 Superintendent's Report:**

**6.1** Student Board Representative Report: Student Board Representative was out ill, no report was presented.

**6.2** Mr. Schroeder introduced several Board Members from Berrien RESA who gave the Board an overview of their services and upcoming events; each Board Member was presented a copy of the 2007-2008 Organization Service Report.

**7.0 Board Committee Reports:**

**7.1 Personnel Committee:** Chairperson Knutel reported on the Personnel Committee meeting of November 10, 2008.

**8.0 Correspondence:**

**8.1 Sunflower Garden Club** – November 4, 2008. Correspondence received indicating they can no longer provide services to our courtyard.

**9.0 Old Business:** None.

**10.0 New Business:**

- 10.1 Consider Approval of Accounts Payable for November 2008 and the Treasurer's Report for October 2008:** Moved by Wagner, supported by Knutel. All Ayes. Motion carried.
- 10.2 Consider Approval of 2008-2009 Snow Removal Bid.** The snow removal bid from Oldenburg & Sons Excavating, Inc. has no price increase from last year. Moved by Petro, supported by Ehlert, to accept the Snow Removal Bid as presented. All Ayes. Motion carried.
- 10.3 Consider Approval of Non-Homestead Millage Renewal/Headlee Rollback Resolution:** Petro asked if we were going to advertise. Capiak said they were going to put together an informational flyer. Moved by Wagner, supported by Petro, to accept the Resolution. Roll call vote: Ehlert, Aye; Pfauth, Aye; Wagner, Aye; Petro, Aye; Farhat, Aye; Knutel, Aye; German, Aye. (All Ayes). Motion carried. The resolution was declared adopted (7-0).
- 10.4 Consider Approval of Cooperative Education Program Agreement Resolution.** Galien has approved the cooperative agreement with River Valley. Moved by Wagner, supported by Knutel, to accept the Resolution. Roll call vote: Ehlert, Aye; Pfauth, Aye; Wagner, Aye; Petro, Aye; Farhat, Aye; Knutel, Aye; German, Aye. (All Ayes). Motion carried. The resolution was declared adopted (7-0).
- 10.5 Consider Approval 403 (b) Consortium Resolutions.** IRS law has changed regarding these funds. River Valley will join a consortium and needs Board approval to continue with the process. This requires two resolutions: Moved by Petro, supported by Ehlert, to accept the first resolution. Roll call vote on first resolution: Ehlert, Aye; Pfauth, Aye; Wagner, Aye; Petro, Aye; Farhat, Aye; Knutel, Aye; German, Aye. (All Ayes). Motion carried. Moved by Wagner, supported by Ehlert, to accept the second resolution. Roll call vote on second resolution: Ehlert, Aye; Pfauth, Aye; Wagner, Aye; Petro, Aye; Farhat, Aye; Knutel, Aye; German, Aye. (All Ayes). Motion carried. Both resolutions were declared adopted (7-0).
- 10.6 Accept Resignation of Teacher Assistant.** Moved by Petro, supported by Ehlert, to accept the resignation of Teacher Assistant, Micah Deam, with Thanks for her service to the district. All Ayes. Motion carried.
- 10.7 Accept/Approve Retirement of Staff Member:** Moved by Petro, supported by Knutel, to accept the retirement of Middle/High School Principal, Mr. Wayne Warner, effective December 31, 2008. All Ayes. Motion carried.
- 10.8 Consider Approval of Hiring Excalibur Personnel Inc. to Fill Vacant Position.** Excalibur is the Third Party employer. Discussion followed. Wagner questioned the 40 flex days being offered to a contract employee. President Farhat said they would like to recognize Mr. Warner. Moved by Wagner, supported by Petro, to rehire Mr. Wayne Warner, through Excalibur Personnel Incorporated, effective January 1, 2009 as Middle/High School Principal. All Ayes. Motion carried.
- 10.9 Consider Approval of Resolution for 2009 Annual Summer Property Tax Collection.** Moved by Wagner, supported by Ehlert, to accept the resolution. Roll call vote: Ehlert, Aye; German, Aye; Pfauth, Aye; Wagner, Aye; Petro, Aye; Knutel, Aye; Farhat, Aye. (All Ayes). Motion carried. The resolution was declared adopted (7-0).
- 10.10 Accept Resignation of Part-Time Bus Driver:** Motion by Knutel, supported by Petro, to accept the resignation of Sherry Knapp, as a Part-Time Bus Driver, effective January 30, 2009. All Ayes. Motion carried.

**11.0 Items for Discussion Only:**

- 11.1 Elementary Play – Aesop’s at the Acorn.** Mr. Lange informed the Board that Donna Blue Lachman, playwright, actor and director will be directing a children’s production of Aesop’s Fables at the Acorn Theater in Three Oaks during the first week of December.

Tuesday, December 2, 6:00 p.m., Dress Rehearsal...Open to the public.

Thursday, December 4 at 11:00 a.m. and 1:00 p.m...Audience will include grades 3-5 (11:00 a.m.), and grades K-2 (1:00 p.m.)

Saturday, December 6 at 1:00 p.m...Final Performance at a FOTO (Friends of Three Oaks special event).

- 11.2 MSBOA District #6 All-Star Band Chairs:** Mr. Schroeder informed the Board that twelve River Valley Students were selected to the District #6 All-Star Band.

Amanda Clark-Flute  
Maggie Lubarski-Flute  
Deanna Phillips-Clarinet  
Addison Alvarado-Trumpet  
Kacie Mercer-Trumpet  
Shelby Francis-French Horn  
Lexie Schmidt-French Horn  
Hannah Vavra-French Horn  
Kyle Totzke-Trombone  
Beck Williamson-Percussion  
Wesley Rieth-Percussion  
Lana Smith-Percussion

Mr. Schroeder has contacted each family and sent congratulations on behalf of the Board of Education.

- 11.3 The Pokagon Fund-RV Grant:** Mr. Schroeder informed the Board that River Valley School District has been awarded a grant of \$45,000.00 for the support of our Social Studies Curriculum.

- 11.4 Review of the Last Public Forum:** Mr. Schroeder will contact Wolgast representatives to develop hard numbers pertaining to remodeling of our districts buildings; this will hopefully give the Board and Buildings and Grounds Committee comparison cost of remodeling and building new. The Board was presented a copy of a Wish List developed by the District’s teachers pertaining to remodeling.

- 11.5 County Collection of Non-Homestead Taxes:** Mrs. Capiak and Mr. Schroeder clarified how the Taxes that are collected are figured into what moneys the state releases to our district.

**12.0 Hearing of Persons Present:**

- Mr. Lange informed the Board that the training on the Promethian Board with the Elementary teachers is continuing, training is in 2-hour sessions, with hands-on training.
- Mr. Lange informed the Board that 45 students are enrolled in the guitar lessons and 22 students are enrolled in the keyboard classes that are being offered at both elementary campuses.

- Mr. Lange informed the Board that the elementary schools Holiday Program dates have been set: Wednesday, December 3<sup>rd</sup> at 2:45 pm at the Three Oaks Campus; and Tuesday, December 9<sup>th</sup> at 2:45 pm at the Chikaming campus.
- Mr. Warner invited everyone to the Miss Three Oaks Queen Pageant that will be held in the Middle/High School Auditorium on November 22, 2008 at 7:00 p.m.

**13.0 Adjournment:** Moved by Knutel, supported by Petro, to adjourn at 8:50 p.m. All Ayes. Motion carried.

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J.C. German, Secretary  
River Valley Board of Education