



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 15, 2008 @ 7:30 p.m.

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 Knutel, supported by Petro, to approve the agenda with the following addition: Item 10.5: Consider Acceptance of Resignation of Middle School Wrestling Coach Phillip Downs. All Ayes. Motion carried.

4.0 Public Comment on Agenda: None.

5.0 Consider Approval of Regular Meeting Minutes of November 17, 2008. Moved by Pfauth, supported by Petro. All Ayes. Motion carried.

6.0 Superintendent's Report:

6.1 Student Board Representative Report: Gina Schrader Junior Class Representative gave the Student Board Representative Report.

Vice President Ehlert arrived at 7:35 p.m.

6.2 Fall Sports Participation Report: River Valley Athletic Director Mr. Carter gave the Board a report on River Valley's fall sports season participation. He informed the Board that River Valley would be out of the Lakeland Conference for football next season and would be considered an Independent. We will be joining the Red Arrow Conference for the 2010 season.

7.0 Board Committee Reports:

7.1 Buildings & Grounds Committee: Chairperson German reported that the Buildings & Grounds Committee met with Representatives from Wolgast Corporation and Hebard & Hebard Architects, Inc. in an effort to obtain pricing to remodel all three of the District's campuses. This pricing will be broken down by a "complete" remodel and by an "as needed" remodel. The Committee will meet prior to the January 26th regular Board meeting to finalize numbers to be presented to the Board at the January 26th Board meeting.

8.0 Correspondence: None

9.0 Old Business: None.

10.0 New Business:

10.1 Consider Approval of Accounts Payable for December 2008 and the Treasurer's Report for November 2008: Moved by Petro, supported by Knutel. All Ayes. Motion carried.

10.2 Consider Approval of "Schools-of-Choice" Option for 2009 Winter Semester. The Administration will meet to review openings, and advertise those openings. Moved by Wagner, supported by Knutel. All Ayes. Motion carried.

10.3 Consider Approval of Recommendation to Hire a Teacher Assistant: The Administration has recommended the hire of Susan Henrichsen as a Part-Time Teacher Assistant at the Three Oaks Campus. Moved by Wagner, supported by Petro. All Ayes. Motion carried.

10.4 Consider Approval of the Class of 2009 Graduation Date: The Administration has recommended Friday, May 29, 2009 as the Graduation Date for the Class of 2009. Moved by Petro, supported by Ehlert. All Ayes. Motion carried.

10.5 Consider Acceptance of Resignation of Middle School Wrestling Coach: Mr. Phillips Downs has offered his resignation as the Middle School Wrestling Coach. Moved by Knutel, supported by Petro, to accept the resignation with thanks from the district. All Ayes. Motion carried.

11.0 Items for Discussion Only:

11.1 Band Update: Mrs. Capiak informed the Board that the River Valley band members are very close to raising the needed funds for the Liberty Bowl trip to Memphis. All band members except one (who started band late this year) will be attending.

11.2 Headlee/Non-Homestead: Mrs. Capiak presented the Board with the River Valley School District Special Election Flyer" for the Headlee/Non-Homestead millage that will be mailed to all families of the district. Several Board members suggested a few minor changes to the flyer. Mrs. Capiak will make the recommended changes prior to the mailings. The election is scheduled for February 24, 2009.

11.3 Lawn Mower: Due to the age and recent repair cost to the district lawn mower, Mr. Payne and Mr. Schroeder have recommended that we purchase a new one. Mrs. Capiak informed the Board that based on the cost of the new mower, the trade-in allowance we will get from our existing mower, and the amount of use the mower gets during the year, it is in the best interest of the district to purchase a new mower. The money is presently in the Buildings & Grounds budget. Mr. Carter, who is the primary operator of the mower, concurred; last year the existing mower was in constant repair.

11.4 Board Candidate: Mrs. Capiak reminded those Board Members up for re-election this year and those interested in running for the School Board, that the dead-line for filing their Affidavit of Identity is February 10, 2009. The election is scheduled for May 5, 2009.

11.5 Mileage Rate: Mrs. Capiak informed the Board that beginning January 1, 2009 the Internal Revenue Service announced the reimbursable mileage rate will be 55 cents. It is recommended that the River Valley District use the IRS standard mileage rate at that time.

12.0 Hearing of Persons Present:

- Mr. Warner informed the Board that the River Valley Middle/High School became the first school in Southwest Berrien County to be accepted in the bowling 101 curriculum program. The program was brought to RV through the initiatives of Mr. Warner and Mr. Sullivan. The bowling curriculum was exposed to every PE class, at their appropriate level. Lakeshore Lanes bought and donated the equipment. Mr. Warner expressed that the students have had a lot of fun with this and seem very excited about it. The district received media coverage from the local papers. The class will run through December 19, 2008.
- Mrs. Capiak informed the Board and those present that the district had received a donation of a KitchenAid stainless steel, outside grille.
- Mrs. Capiak reported that the Middle School Math Lab is up and running with eleven students taking advantage of the after school program.
- Mr. Lange informed the Board of the elementary school caroling schedule and that all of the district elementary students will be attending Vickers Theater on Friday the 19th for a showing of “Horton Hears a Who”. Mr. Lange thanked the Vickers family and the Parent/Teachers groups for this gift.
- Mr. Knutel requested an update on the district Auto Technology program; Mr. Warner has been in contact with Southwestern Community College and the previous district Auto Technology instructor and will be meeting with them in January to discuss the future of the program.
- Mr. Warner announced that he will be meeting with Mrs. Shuler and the director of Michigan State University to look at possibly reinstating the Ag Program.

13.0 Adjournment: Moved by Knutel, supported by Petro, to adjourn at 8:15 p.m. All Ayes. Motion carried.

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