



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

**Work Session – RV Middle/High School Library  
Monday, January 19, 2009 @ 7:30 p.m.**

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**MINUTES**

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

Members Absent: William Farhat

**1.0 Call to Order**

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

**2.0 Pledge of Allegiance**

Vice President Ehlert led the audience in the Pledge of Allegiance.

**3.0 Approval of Agenda as Presented**

Moved by Petro, supported by Knutel, to accept the agenda with the following changes: Item 9.1 Review Recommendation to Hire a Bus Driver, will be moved to the next regular scheduled Board meeting. All Ayes. Motion carried.

- 4.0 Review Regular Meeting Minutes of December 15, 2008.** The Board reviewed the regular meeting minutes of December 15, 2008. Petro made the following change: **Item 7.1 Buildings & Grounds Committee;** third paragraph should read: *The Committee will meet prior to the January 26<sup>th</sup> Regular Board Meeting to finalize numbers to be presented to the Board at the January 26<sup>th</sup> Board Meeting.* The Board will approve these minutes at their next regular meeting.

- 5.0 Recognition of School Board Members:** Mr. Schroeder recognized the members of the River Valley Board of Education; each member was presented a “Certificate of Recognition.” Mr. Schroeder and the Board members thanked Mrs. Kim Fritz, the Culinary Arts Instructor and Amber Loeza from the Culinary Arts class, who prepared and served refreshments before the Work Session to the Board Members and those in attendance. January has been declared “School Board Recognition Month” by Michigan Governor Jennifer Granholm.

- 6.0 Correspondence:** Thank You from the Killips Family.

**7.0 Building & Grounds:**

**7.1 Requested Information on Renovation vs. New:** District Administration and interested Board Members are scheduled to meet with representatives from Wolgast Corporation and Hebard & Hebard Architects, Inc. to obtain and discuss pricing to remodel all three of the District’s campuses. The meeting will be Thursday, at 10:30 a.m., at the River Valley Middle/High School. The Buildings & Grounds Committee will present the information to the full board at the next regular scheduled Board meeting.

## **8.0 Finance:**

### **8.1 Review Accounts Payable for January 2009 and the Treasurer's Report for December 2008:**

Mrs. Capiak reviewed of the Accounts Payable for January 2009 and the Treasurer's Report for December 2008. The Board will approve the Accounts Payable and the Treasurer's Report at their next regular meeting.

### **8.2 Set Meeting for Finance Committee:** This is to begin the budget process for next year. The Finance Committee, Mr. Schroeder, and Mrs. Capiak will meet on February 3, 2009 at 4:00 p.m., in the Superintendent's conference room (this date is tentative until the committee can confer with Mr. Farhat).

### **8.3 Review Recycling Grant:** River Valley Elementary has received a \$850.00 grant for recycling. The grant was written by Mrs. Beverly Billey-Morrow and Mrs. Jackie Gill. The grant is on a reimbursement basis starting in January 2009 from the Berrien County Resource Recovery.

### **8.4 Review Resolution for May 5, 2009 Election:** This resolution will allow the River Valley School District to put the Operating Millage Renewal Proposal on the May 5<sup>th</sup>, 2009 ballot with the regular school Board election, should it fail on February 24<sup>th</sup>, 2009. The Board will adopt this resolution at their next regular scheduled Board meeting.

### **8.5 Consider Approval of Agreement for Collection of Summer Property Taxes.** Agreement is with Chikaming Township; this agreement allows Chikaming Township to collect the summer tax levy of 100% of the tax levy for the district for the year 2009. Moved by Wagner, supported by Petro, to accept the agreement. Roll call vote: Pfauth, Aye; Petro, Aye; Ehlert, Aye; Knutel, Aye; Wagner, Aye; German, Aye; Farhat, Absent; Motion carried. The agreement was declared accepted (6-0).

## **9.0 Personnel**

### **9.1 Review Recommendation to Hire a Bus Driver.** This will be a replacement for Mrs. Knapp. This item will be reviewed by the Board at their next regular Board meeting.

## **10.0 Other:**

### **10.1 Congratulations to the River Valley Band:** Mr. Schroeder introduced Band Director, Robert Hay, who gave a recap of the River Valley High School band's trip to the Liberty Bowl. The band received the following awards: first-place in the Field Show Competition, Outstanding Drum Major, Outstanding Color Guard, Outstanding Marching, Outstanding Music and Outstanding General Effects. The band then went on to claim a first-place award in the Liberty Bowl Parade, while also winning caption awards for Outstanding Drum Major, Outstanding Percussion, and Outstanding Music. Mr. Hay introduced several of the band members who gave a brief recap of their Liberty Bowl experience. Those members present were Wesley Rieth, Lana Smith, Maggie Lubarski, and Joseph Riley-Schedler. Mr. Schroeder congratulated Mr. Hay for his leadership and gave those members present a "Certificate of Recognition." The trophies will be displayed in the trophy cases at the high school.

### **10.2 Congratulations to River Valley Middle School National Geography Bee Champ:** Mr. Schroeder introduced Keegan Ranson and her parents, and congratulated Keegan for her accomplishments. Keegan is a sixth grader at River Valley Middle School.

- 10.3 Review Donation of Golf Clubs:** Mr. Schroeder and Mr. Warner acknowledged the donation of a complete set of golf clubs and bag from Mr. and Mrs. Richard Smith; the clubs will be utilized by the High School P.E. classes.
- 10.4 Headlee Vote:** Mrs. Capiak gave an overview of the flyer to be mailed to all River Valley families; several changes to the flyer were made at the request of the Board.
- 10.5 Discuss Superintendent’s Evaluation Process:** Each Board Member was given the evaluation form in their Board packets; they are due by February 15<sup>th</sup> and will be processed by Mr. Knutel, the Chairperson for the Personnel Committee.
- 10.6 Michigan High School Athletic Association:** Mr. Carter has looked into an option for the Middle School to get the sixth graders involved in after school sports. A brief discussion followed and Mr. Carter will report back to the Board after meeting with other districts and getting more information.
- 10.7 Taco Night February 17, 2009:** Announcement-to be sponsored by the Middle School PTO.
- 10.8 Chili Night February 23, 2009:** Announcement-to be sponsored by the Elementary Schools PTO.
- 11.0 Adjournment:** Moved by Wagner, supported by Knutel, to adjourn at 8:22 p.m. All Ayes. Motion carried.