

BLACK RIVER PUBLIC SCHOOL
Board Meeting Minutes
December 17, 2018

Item 1. CALL TO ORDER

The regular meeting of the Board of Trustees of Black River Public School was called to order by President Tom Pietri at 5:34pm on December 17, 2018, in room 229 at the school's Columbia Avenue campus. Recognition was made that a quorum was present through a roll call.

Mr. Pietri administered the oath of office to Mr. Davis, Mr. Kibler, and Ms. Mitchell to officially begin their terms on Black River's Board of Trustees.

Item 2. ROLL CALL

Members Present:

Mike Camarota, Maria Carrizales-Alonzo, Ruth Crouch, Craig Davis, David Kibler, Kim Mitchell, Tom Pietri, Brian Porter

Members Absent:

Mary Mims

Staff Present:

Shannon Brunink (Head of School), Michelle Byrne (Administrative Assistant), John Donnelly (Dean of Students), Jim Levering (Elementary Administrator), Allyson VanderBush (BR Teacher), John Zoellner (Business Director)

Public Present:

Matt Cawood (GVSU Charter Schools Office), Errol Goldman (BRPS Attorney)

Media Present:

None

Item 3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

There being no corrections, all minutes of the Board's November 19, 2018 meeting, were approved upon a motion by Mr. Pietri, seconded by Ms. Carrizales-Alonzo. (8-0)

Item 4. BUSINESS REPORT

Mr. Zoellner distributed the November financial report and indicated that he is developing a new food service bid. The Finance Committee has agreed to have their next meeting on January 10th where they will discuss this year's budget adjustment.

Item 5. ADMINISTRATION REPORT

Mr. Donnelly continues to address a variety of discipline issues as the semester comes to an end. He also shared that the Holland Department of Public Safety, in partnership with Black River Public School, will now employ a morning and afternoon crossing guard for our campus.

Mr. Levering began by outlining the elementary participation in Hour of Code. He also indicated that he has completed each of the rewards earned by Fun Walk participants. This included opportunities to throw a pie in his face as well as Jimmy John's lunches. There have been 120 elementary cookbooks sold to support the Comfortable Cafeteria program. Ms. Meyer and Ms. Letherby brought cookies decorated by students to Appledorn Assisted Living for residents to enjoy. Ms. Duquette has developed a proposal for a youth gardening Project Term class which will develop raised garden beds for the elementary. A Barnes & Noble bookfair took place on December 1st and included a teacher story hour. Mr. Levering was also excited to participate in this year's Shop with a Cop hosted by the Holland Police Department.

Mr. Brunink explained that meetings continue with the insurance company to discuss Science building damage and coverage. He has also held meetings with Hi-Tec to assess workloads and how they can meet janitorial expectations. Faculty council is preparing a presentation of ideas and goals. Many teachers have volunteered to participate in a pilot project assessing academic work and the role of redos and retakes. They will also discuss what credit recovery could mean while maintaining the school's mission. The board discussed enrollment trends and what data is available. Mr. Brunink has been brainstorming big ideas with the navigators encompassing areas such as a possible preschool program and BR's ability to provide Montessori training. They aspire to answer the question: "How do we make Black River even better without sacrificing who we are?" Mr. Brunink and Ms. Schrottenboer attended a recent professional development opportunity with author Rex Miller to investigate how stress affects teachers.

Item 6. PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Mr. Pietri highlighted the recent Turkey Jam community event and teased plans for an upcoming school activity. The athletic boosters are hoping to help recoup some of the funds usually raised during the homecoming event which experienced unfavorable weather.

Item 7. STUDENT REPORT

A student report was not presented.

Item 8. GVSU UPDATE

Mr. Cawood explained that the board terms of Mr. Camarota, Mr. Kibler, and Ms. Mims will be up for renewal this year.

Item 9. OLD BUSINESS

There was no old business for the board to address.

Item 10. NEW BUSINESS

There was no new business brought before the board.

Item 11. OPEN FORUM / COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC

There were no comments from the public.

Item 12. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the board, a motion was made by Mr. Pietri, seconded by Ms. Carrizales-Alonzo to adjourn the meeting at 6:38 pm. (8-0)

NEXT MEETING:

The next regular meeting is scheduled for 5:30 pm on January 21, 2019, at Black River Public School's 491 Columbia Avenue Campus.

Respectfully submitted,



Mary M. Mims, Secretary