

BLACK RIVER PUBLIC SCHOOL
Board Meeting Minutes
September 18, 2017

Item 1. CALL TO ORDER

The regular meeting of the Board of Trustees of Black River Public School was called to order by President Stephanie Elhart at 5:34pm on September 18, 2017, in room 229 at the school's Columbia Avenue campus. Recognition was made that a quorum was present through a roll call.

Item 2. ROLL CALL

Members Present:

Maria Carrizales-Alonzo, Mike Camarota, Ruth Crouch, Timothy DuMez, Stephanie Elhart, Chris McNaughton, Mary Mims, Tom Pietri, Brian Porter

Members Absent:

None

Staff Present:

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

Public Present:

Bill Barker (GVSU Charter Schools Office), Sophia Camarota (BR Student Rep.), Abby Frankhouse (BR Student Rep.), Errol Goldman (BRPS Attorney), Shane Harrelson (BR Parent)

Media Present:

None

Item 3. OATH OF OFFICE

Ms. Elhart administered the oath of office to Mr. Porter renewing his term on Black River's Board of Trustees. The appropriate paperwork has been signed and submitted to the GVSU Charter School Office.

Item 4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

There being no corrections, all minutes of the board's August 21, 2017 meeting were approved upon a motion by Ms. Elhart, seconded by Mr. McNaughton. (9-0)

Item 5. BUSINESS REPORT

Mr. Zoellner distributed the 2016-2017 Financial Statements and explained that the Financial Committee met last Thursday. The audit report received an unqualified opinion again this year, the best possible outcome. The board thanked Mr. Zoellner and Ms. DeVree for their work preparing for this year's audit.

Motion to approve the Black River audit ending June 30, 2017. The resolution was approved upon a motion by Ms. Elhart, seconded by Ms. Crouch. (9-0)

Item 6. ADMINISTRATION REPORT

Mr. Donnelly explained that it has been a smooth start to the school year and he continues his work on security and building relationships. He continues to plan ahead for this year's events. Mr. Donnelly thanked Ms. Pyle for her years of hard work leading Student Council and welcomed Ms. Hulst to this new role.

Mr. Levering was excited to share that he has registered BR for the annual Spelling Bee. Work continues to address areas of growth from last year's Title I on site review and PBIS is up and running for 1st-8th grade.

Mr. Brunink distributed information about the Links Peer to Peer program and explained that the help team is in place and Black River is fully staffed for the school year. He also indicated that he had a good discussion with PO last week.

Item 7. PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Ms. Elhart explained that the board is currently working with GVSU regarding the specifics of contract renewal.

Item 8. GVSU UPDATE

Mr. Barker explained that the specifics of renewal visits are still being developed. He hopes to bring more information regarding the Academic Grant to next month's meeting.

Item 9. STUDENT REPORT

Miss Frankhouse and Miss Camarota explained that Student Council has redeveloped Homecoming ballots in order to vote for an individual based on a variety of criteria with a goal of making it more accepting. Spirit week will be followed by the game on September 29th and dance on September 30th. Visits from college representatives continued this week and Student Council would like to work with Ms. Wright to help disseminate information.

Item 10. OLD BUSINESS

There was no old business for the board to address.

Item 11. NEW BUSINESS

There was no new business brought before the board.

Item 12. PUBLIC COMMENT/OPEN FORUM

There were no comments from the public.

Item 13. CLOSED SESSION

It was moved by Ms. Elhart and supported by Mr. Porter to move into closed session to review a written legal opinion pursuant to Section 8 (h) of the Open Meetings Act. A roll call vote was conducted. Ayes: Ms. Carrizales-Alonzo, Mr. Camarota, Ms. Crouch, Mr. DuMez, Ms. Elhart, Mr. McNaughton, Mr. Porter, Ms. Mims, Mr. Pietri. Nays: None. Motion passed. The Board of Trustees moved into closed session at 6:42 pm.

Item 14. RETURN TO OPEN FORUM

It was moved by Ms. Elhart and supported by Ms. Carrizales-Alonzo to move out of closed session. A roll call vote was conducted. Ayes: Ms. Carrizales-Alonzo, Mr. Camarota, Ms. Crouch, Mr. DuMez, Ms. Elhart, Mr. McNaughton, Mr. Porter, Ms. Mims, Mr. Pietri. Nays: None. Motion passed. The Board of Trustees moved out of closed session at 7:22 pm.

Item 15. ADJOURN

There being no further business to come before the board, a motion was made by Ms. Elhart, seconded by Mr. Pietri to adjourn the meeting at 7:23 pm.

NEXT MEETING

The next regular meeting is scheduled for 5:30pm on October 16, 2017, at Black River Public School's Columbia Avenue campus.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary M. Mims, Secretary

