

**BLACK RIVER PUBLIC SCHOOL**  
**Board Meeting Minutes**  
**April 19, 2021**

**Item 1. CALL TO ORDER**

The meeting of the Board of Trustees of Black River Public School was called to order by President Tom Pietri at 5:35pm on April 19, 2021, through a Zoom webinar. Recognition was made that a quorum was present through a roll call.

**Item 2. ROLL CALL**

Members Present:

Elizabeth Bauman (Ottawa), Mike Camarota (Hudsonville), Maria Carrizales-Alonzo (Holland), Ruth Crouch (West Olive), Craig Davis (Holland), David Kibler (Holland), Kim Mitchell (Holland), Tom Pietri (Holland)

Members Absent:

Mary Mims

Staff Present:

Shannon Brunink (Head of School), Michelle Byrne (Administrative Assistant), John K. Donnelly (Dean of Students), Gregory Dykhouse (BR Teacher), Michelle Letherby (BR Teacher), Jim Levering (Elementary Administrator), John Newman (BR Teacher), Courtney Phillips (BR Teacher), Ann Stimer (BR Teacher), John Zoellner (Business Director)

Public Present:

16164054405, Amy Dykema, annie m, Ben Vesper, Brad Slagh, Brandie Navarro, Cheryl Eshenaur, Chris Russell, Eric Scott, Errol Goldman, Heather Davis, janevandermeer, Kerrie, Kim Eich, Kim Smit - Herman Miller, ksess, Liz McManus, Mary Rynsburger, Matt Cawood, Pat Gort, Phil Rozema, Robin B., Shane Harrelson, Stacey

Media Present:

None

**Item 3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

There being no corrections, all minutes of the Board's March 15, 2021 meeting were approved upon a motion by Mr. Pietri, seconded by Ms. Crouch. (8-0)

**Item 4. FINANCE REPORT**

Mr. Zoellner explained the March financial report and discussed plans for the next Finance Committee meeting.

#### **Item 5. COVID-19 LEARNING PLAN**

Mr. Brunink explained that the Covid-19 Extended Learning Plan has not changed and the school intends to return to in-person learning on Monday, April 26th for those that have chosen to do so.

Mr. Pietri opened the floor for public comment and questions about remote meetings, Covid-19 dashboard, antigen testing, and prom from Shane Harrelson, Kim Eich, and Amy Dykema.

**Motion to approve** Black River's Extended Covid-19 Learning Plan as presented. The resolution passed unanimously upon a motion by Mr. Pietri, seconded by Ms. Carrizales-Alonzo. (8-0)

**Motion to approve** the offered seat schedule as presented. The resolution passed unanimously upon a motion by Mr. Pietri, seconded by Ms. Carrizales-Alonzo. (8-0)

#### **Item 6. ADMINISTRATION REPORT**

Mr. Brunink explained the mask policy mandated by the State of Michigan and Ottawa County Department of Public Health. He also spoke about the current athletic testing program. Ms. Ekdahl and Ms. Schrottenboer were thanked for their support of the summer school, summer camp, and credit recovery programs. He also praised Ms. Ekdahl for her creativity in developing a Prom event that will allow both Juniors and Seniors to safely participate in an end of year celebration. He discussed details of the honors assemblies as well as senior graduation and indicated that Mr. Levering is also planning an outdoor 5th grade graduation. He also reported college acceptance statistics from Ms. Wright.

#### **Item 7. PRESIDENT'S REPORT**

**Motion to appoint** Mr. Tom Pietri and Ms. Kim Mitchell to an additional 3 year term on Black River's board of trustees. The resolution passed unanimously upon a motion by Mr. Pietri, seconded by Ms. Mitchell. (8-0)

It was noted that the terms of Mr. Camarota and Mr. Kibler are set to end next year. He also shared details of the 7 year charter contract renewal Black River earned from GVSU.

**Motion to accept** the 7 year extension of the charter contract with Grand Valley State University. The resolution passed unanimously upon a motion by Mr. Pietri, seconded by Ms. Crouch. (8-0)

#### **Item 8. GVSU REPORT**

Mr. Cawood shared that it was a pleasure to participate in Black River's contract renewal which resulted in the highest term of 7 years. Black River has fulfilled this year's board training requirement and members are invited to the virtual board reception on May 13th. He spoke of state assessments, the school operation survey, technology reimbursements, and reiterated Mr. Pietri's statement about virtual board meetings being allowed while a county is in a state of emergency.

#### **Item 9. PUBLIC COMMENT**

Representative Bradley Slagh was invited to address the board. He explained the work of the committees he is currently involved with and asked how he could support Black River at the state level. Both Mr. Pietri and Mr. Brunink shared their thanks for his time and support.

Mr. Pietri read aloud questions and comments indicating that questions may be answered personally by individual members of the board after the meeting. This included questions/comments about graduation, prom, board terms, summer program, and health department partnership from Shane Harrelson, Kim Eich, Brandie Navarro, and janevandermeer.

#### **Item 10. ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business to come before the board, the meeting was adjourned at 6:34pm.

#### **NEXT MEETING:**

The next regular meeting is scheduled for 5:30 pm on May 17, 2021.

Respectfully submitted,



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Mary M. Mims, Secretary