

BLACK RIVER PUBLIC SCHOOL
Board Meeting Minutes
June 24, 2019

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 5:36pm on June 24, 2019, 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:

Ruth Crouch, Craig Davis, David Kibler, Mary Mims, Kim Mitchell, Tom Pietri, Brian Porter

Members Absent:

Mike Camarota, Maria Carrizales-Alonzo

Staff Present:

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

Public Present:

Matt Cawood (GVSU Charter Schools Office), Errol Goldman (BR Attorney), Donna Lowry (BR Parent)

Media Present:

None

Item 3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

There being no corrections, all minutes of the Board's May 20, 2019 meeting, were approved upon a motion by Mr. Pietri, seconded by Ms. Crouch. (7-0)

Item 4. WE THE PEOPLE UPDATE

Ms. Lowry shared a parent perspective of the We the People program and indicated that it has been the most impactful educational experience her son has participated in to date. She thanked Mr. Alex Constantelos for bringing this opportunity to the students of Black River and asked the school to support the program as it grows.

Item 5. BUSINESS REPORT

Mr. Zoellner distributed the May financial report and indicated that the Finance Committee met on June 3rd. He also presented the proposed 2018-2019 revised budget for the general fund and school service funds. Revisions are for the original 2018-2019 budgets adopted last June and are based on actual student count and state school aid appropriations. The five year analysis was presented and discussed at this time.

Motion to approve the final amended budget for 2018-2019. The resolution passed unanimously upon a motion by Mr. Pietri, seconded by Ms. Crouch. (7-0)

The board moved in to the public budget hearing where Mr. Zoellner presented the proposed 2019-2020 budgets and responded to questions. The Michigan School Code requires school boards to adopt a balanced budget for the general fund and school service funds prior to the July 1 beginning of the fiscal year. The board's June meeting serves the statutory requirement for a budget hearing.

Motion to accept the proposed 2019-2020 original budgets as presented. The resolution passed unanimously upon a motion by Mr. Pietri, seconded by Ms. Crouch. (7-0)

Motion to close the public hearing and move back in to the regular board meeting. The resolution passed unanimously at 6:07pm upon a motion by Mr. Pietri, seconded by Ms. Mitchell. (7-0)

Motion to approve the annual designations as presented. The resolution passed unanimously upon a motion by Mr. Pietri, seconded by Ms. Crouch. (7-0)

Motion to accept the fixed price contract with Aramark for one year with possible renewal of up to five years. The resolution passed unanimously upon a motion by Mr. Pietri, seconded by Ms. Crouch. (7-0)

Motion to accept the required \$0.10 price adjustment for the 2019-2020 school year. The resolution passed unanimously upon a motion by Mr. Pietri, seconded by Ms. Mitchell. (7-0)

Item 6. ADMINISTRATION REPORT

Mr. Donnelly reviewed Black River's bullying policy and indicated that updates to the student handbook are being made and will be shared digitally. He explained that the OIASD attendance policy adopted last year resulted in 900 fewer tardy slips written in the MS/HS building for the 2018-2019 school year. He also took the opportunity to thank GVSU for the START training they offered and outlined the benefits of the program.

Mr. Levering acknowledged Mr. Donnelly's thoroughness and accuracy in investigating issues indicating that he has learned a lot from their work together. The Elementary celebrated the last day of school with a field day consisting of 15 stations and a visit from Officer Hamberg and the

Polar Patrol. The 5th graders continued the tradition with a red carpet exit at the end of the day. Next fall Mr. Levering hopes to start a new tradition with a Kindergarten "signing day" photo-op. Black River Elementary honored the work of Ms. Barb Boyce at a retirement party on the last day of school. Ms. Ann Stimer will join the Kindergarten team next year as a new Montessori teacher and Ms. Beth Monhollon will also work with the group as a new Kindergarten assistant.

Mr. Brunink explained that Mr. Dan Penning continues work to facilitate repairs to the Science building as well as plans for the concrete slab court. Upcoming changes to CAP were outlined and Mr. Brunink indicated that he hopes to create a more meaningful flex time where students can take advantage of additional support and unique opportunities. He is completing work on both School Improvement Plans as well as the District Improvement Plan and looking in to ways to restructure the Special Education department. Ms. Rebekah Schipper has provided a recent mindfulness/resilience training that will be rolled out to the rest of the staff in August. Mr. Brunink expressed gratitude for the generous donation that made this opportunity possible. He also thanked the board for their participation in this year's Senior graduation.

Motion to adopt the resolution as written to grant student #12017 the final credit required to graduate. The resolution passed unanimously upon a motion by Mr. Pietri, seconded by Ms. Mims and is attached to these minutes as **Exhibit A**.

Item 7. PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Mr. Pietri thanked Ms. Crouch for her work in completing the Head of School evaluation as well as to the board for their support during his first year as President. He also expressed the board's appreciation for the time Mr. Porter has spent in service of the school as he finishes his last term on the board.

Motion to approve the recommended Head of School evaluation as presented. The resolution passed unanimously upon a motion by Mr. Pietri, seconded by Ms. Crouch. (7-0)

Motion to accept the slate of board officers listed below for the 2019-2020 school year. The resolution passed unanimously upon a motion by Ms. Crouch, seconded by Mr. Davis. (7-0)

President - Tom Pietri
Vice President - Kim Mitchell
Secretary - Mary Mims
Treasurer - Maria Carrizales-Alonzo

Item 8. STUDENT REPORT

A student report was not brought before the board.

Item 9. GVSU UPDATE

Mr. Cawood indicated that the GVSU board has approved the reappointment of Mr. Camarota, Mr. Kibler, and Ms. Mims who took their oaths renewing their membership on Black River's Board of Trustees. He also reminded the board that the contract amendment has been distributed and can be approved at an upcoming meeting.

Item 10. OLD BUSINESS

There was no old business for the board to address.

Item 11. NEW BUSINESS

It was shared that Ms. Carrizales-Alonzo continues her work with the Sexual Education Curriculum Committee.

Item 12. OPEN FORUM / COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC

There were no comments from the public.

Item 13. CLOSED SESSION

Motion to move into closed session to review a written legal opinion at 7:00pm. The resolution passed unanimously upon a motion by Mr. Pietri, seconded by Ms. Crouch through a roll call vote. (7-0)

RETURN TO OPEN SESSION

Motion to move out of closed session at 7:26pm. The resolution passed unanimously upon a motion by Mr. Pietri, seconded by Ms. Mims. (7-0)

Item 14. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the board, the meeting adjourned at 7:27 pm.

NEXT MEETING:

The next regular meeting is scheduled for 5:30 pm on August 19, 2019, at Black River Public School's 491 Columbia Avenue Campus.

Respectfully submitted,



Mary M. Mims, Secretary