

BLACK RIVER PUBLIC SCHOOL
Board Meeting Minutes
November 21, 2022

Item 1. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting of the Board of Trustees of Black River Public School was called to order by President Kim Mitchell at 5:34pm on November 21, 2022, 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

Ms. Mitchell administered the oath of office to TJ McDonald beginning his term on the Black River Board of Trustees.

Members Present:

Sarah Bast, Elisabeth Bauman, Craig Davis, Mary Mims, TJ McDonald, Kim Mitchell

Members Absent:

Maria Carrizales-Alonzo, Ruth Crouch, Tom Pietri

Staff Present:

Shannon Brunink (Head of School), Michelle Byrne (Administrative Assistant), John K. Donnelly (Dean of Students), Carly Johnson (BR Teacher), John Zoellner (Business Director)

Public Present:

Matt Cawood, Errol Goldman, Finleigh Sinclair, Cassandra, Carter

Media Present:

None

Item 3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

There being no corrections, all minutes of the Board's October 17, 2022 meeting were approved upon a motion by Ms. Mitchell, seconded by Ms. Mims. (6-0)

Item 4. BUSINESS REPORT

Mr. Zoellner shared that the interview process continues and that he hopes to have the open business office position filled soon.

Item 5. ADMINISTRATION REPORT

Mr. Donnelly applauded the Social Work and Special Education teams that continue to address difficult situations with support and dignity. He is evaluating PBIS and working with the ISD professional development to develop behavior management across the board. Mr. Donnelly is looking at plans and options for both Honors Assembly and Graduation.

Mr. Brunink shared that the paraprofessionals, social workers, special education teachers and Title I staff are doing a wonderful job of supporting our students. He explained that BR has every type of kid here and our focus is to support them in any way possible. Talks continue with the county about spring break timelines, Common Calendar, and Holiday breaks. Project Term sign ups are happening now with kudos to Ms. Jennifer Wise for her work to make these valuable opportunities possible each year. Ms. Robin Bentley has taken a new job and we have hired Ms. Allison Hilgert to fill the open position in the Elementary Main Office. Mr. Peter Middleton and Ms. Carrie Ames plan to share NWEA and Star data in December or January. Tomorrow's faculty inservice has been a collaboration to learn more about inquiry based learning and in the elementary, discussions of positive behavior and common goals as Montessorians.

Item 6. FACULTY COUNCIL REPORT

Ms. Johnson explained that Faculty Council continues to meet with Mr. Brunink and Ms. Mitchell. She presented to committees ideas and they are working to obtain more information with a focus on positivity and problem solving.

Item 7. STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE REPORT

Miss Sinclair shared highlights from this year's Big Read events, be Nice, BR Theatre Company, Student Council's food drive, and the Powder Tuff fundraiser. She indicated that she was pleased with the diversity of this year's Project Term offerings and asked about the naming and structure of some classes.

Item 8. PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Ms. Mitchell did not have anything to report at this time.

Item 9. GVSU REPORT

Mr. Cawood reminded the board of their next training opportunity on January 18th. He explained PA213, indicated that GVSU will be conducting the school operations survey again this year, and will have the school performance reports available in January.

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

There was no public comment.


Item 13. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the board, the meeting was adjourned at 6:11pm.

NEXT MEETING:

The next regular meeting is scheduled for 5:30 pm on December 12, 2022.

Respectfully submitted,



Mary M. Mims, Secretary