

BLACK RIVER PUBLIC SCHOOL
Board Meeting Minutes
April 24, 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 5:40pm on April 24, 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:

Gregory Christie, Ruth Crouch, Timothy DuMez, Stephanie Elhart, Chris McNaughton, Mary Mims, Brian Porter

Members Absent:

Maria Carrizales-Alonzo, Tom Pietri

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:

Delaney Cavanagh (BR Student), Cheryl Edwards-Canon (GVSU Charter Schools Office), Abby Frankhouse (BR Student), Shane Harrelson (BR Parent)

Media Present:

None

Item 3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

There being no corrections, all minutes of the board's March 20, 2017 meeting were approved upon a motion by Ms. Elhart, seconded by Mr. Christie. (7-0)

Item 4. ADMINISTRATION REPORT

Mr. Levering explained that the Knight of Math was held on Friday, April 14th and was enjoyed by all that attended. There were a variety of raffle prizes and the event taught families how to incorporate math games into their activities at home. Black River Elementary raised \$1,600.00 to support the Leukemia and Lymphoma Society in a recent fundraiser. He also indicated that teacher observations and evaluations have been leading to many great conversations.

Mr. Donnelly thanked Ms. Wright, Ms. Grinzinger, and the many volunteers that made the April 22nd Rat Race a success. He highlighted the accomplishment of Makaya Lathers who recently won the State Golden Gloves Championship. Cleanup continues at the pool property and the Eco Challenge class has submitted a development proposal to a local donor. Mr. Donnelly has been working with the neighbors of the school to keep the area safe.

Mr. Brunink indicated that students have completed the ACT WorkKeys and SAT. MSTEP and NWEA testing are currently underway while AP exams begin May 1st. Middle School and High School Honors Assemblies will be held on April 27th. The new format will allow students to be present to celebrate the accomplishments of their peers. The change has also brought up a few concerns which the school is coming up with strategies to address.

Eleven visitors from AdvancED completed Black River's accreditation and we are waiting to receive the full report. Mr. Brunink was inspired by recent classroom observations and plans for the next inservice day which will help staff understand how teaching is done differently across the grade levels.

Item 5. BUSINESS REPORT

Mr. Zoellner distributed and explained the March financial report and indicated that health care benefits are being explored for next year.

Item 6. PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Ms. Elhart shared that four students interviewed for the open Student Board Representative position. The committee is also working to fill the position on the Board of Trustees that will open when Mr. Christie's term ends this summer. Mr. Porter will represent the board as the speaker at the upcoming graduation ceremony. Ms. Crouch is looking for feedback on the new Black River website as well as a teacher to test out the teacher website options. The site will not go live until this summer.

Item 7. GVSU UPDATE

Ms. Edwards-Canon distributed the Contract Performance Review for the 2015-2016 school year and reminded the board of the June 22nd golf outing.

Item 8. STUDENT REPORT

Miss Frankhouse explained that the students have voted in the new Student Council members. She also reminded everyone of the Spring Thing events on May 12 and Prom on May 13.

Miss Cavanagh shared that members of Student Council would like to form a committee to help develop a dress code that is easier to understand.

Item 9. OLD BUSINESS

There was no old business for the board to address.

Item 10. NEW BUSINESS

Mr. McNaughton shared that the robotics team qualified for the World Championships again this year and will be traveling to St. Louis from April 26-29.

Item 11. PUBLIC COMMENT/OPEN FORUM

There were no comments from the public.

Item 12. ADJOURN

There being no further business to come before the board, a motion was made by Ms. Elhart to adjourn the meeting at 6:38 pm.

NEXT MEETING

The next regular meeting is scheduled for 5:30pm on May 15, 2017, at Black River Public School's Columbia Avenue campus.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary M. Mims, Secretary