

BLACK RIVER PUBLIC SCHOOL
Board Meeting Minutes
January 15, 2018

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 January 15, 2018, 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, Tom Pietri, Brian Porter

Members Absent:

Mary Mims

Staff Present:

Carrie Ames (BR Teacher), Shannon Brunink (Head of School), Michelle Byrne (Administrative Assistant), John Donnelly (Dean of Students), 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), Errol Goldman (BRPS Attorney), Shane Harrelson (BR Parent)

Media Present:

None

Item 3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

There being no corrections, all minutes of the Board's December 18, 2017 meeting, were approved upon a motion by Ms. Elhart, seconded by Ms. Crouch (8-0).

Item 4. BUSINESS REPORT

Ms. Elhart indicated that the Finance Committee will meet and the budget adjustment will be brought to the board at the February meeting.

Mr. Zoellner distributed and discussed the December Financial Report.

Item 5. ADMINISTRATION REPORT

Mr. Donnelly shared interdisciplinary ideas with the staff for how to mark Martin Luther King Jr. day. He also noted that academic integrity has been a continued topic of discussion with students, parents, and staff.

Mr. Levering explained that the start of the new semester has brought Odyssey of the Mind, swimming lessons, technology club, and a 3rd-8th grade spelling bee. He has also begun planning the 4th annual Black River takes over the Griffins event. The City of Holland featured the 4th and 5th grade First Lego League in a recent promotional video and Mr. Levering congratulated those involved.

Mr. Brunink began by highlighting student achievements indicating that Mr. Constantelos and his We the People class took 2nd place at the state competition. He indicated that he recently surveyed teachers on their interest in Google Classroom and has been working with the Executive Committee to look through topics brought forth by Faculty Council. Contractors continue to work on security enhancements and Ms. Klunder has created an FAQ for the staff. Students will receive further info in CAP as we near implementation. Enrollment season is well underway and as of today's date BR has received 90 applications. The yearly open house will take place the first Saturday in February. Mr. Brunink has a Legislative Committee meeting on Friday and anticipates more enhancement millage discussions.

Item 6. PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Ms. Elhart met with Mr. Fisher to develop a staff and student survey to obtain feedback on a new Black River identity. She noted that Mr. Dumez will end his term on the board in June and expressed interest in forming a committee to seek out a potential replacement.

Ms. Crouch indicated that she recently had a meeting about the future of the pool property. There is a desire to develop the space with the possibility of an outdoor performance venue, parking, bathrooms, etc.

Item 7. GVSU UPDATE

Mr. Barker reminded members of the board reception that will be held on April 9th at 6pm. He also explained that the board can determine the topic of their required 1 hour training and shared examples from other schools.

Upon a motion by Ms. Crouch, seconded by Ms. Carrizales-Alonzo the board endorsed the nomination resolution for Mr. Pietri to renew his term on The Board of Trustees of Black River Public School. (8-0) The corresponding documentation was signed and submitted to Mr. Barker to be filed with GVSU.

Item 9. STUDENT REPORT

Miss Frankhouse humored those present by reporting a record number of detention attendants this past Thursday, explaining that the start of a new semester required a lot of last minute obligations before starting fresh. Student Council is currently planning a casual sock hop to be held after next week's Friday games.

Miss Camarota shared that this year's Snowcoming dance will take place Saturday, February 10th with the game held on February 9th. The theme will be outer space. She indicated that the student body was buzzing with discussions about BR logo possibilities.

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. OPEN FORUM / COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC

There were no comments from the public.

Item 13. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the Board, the meeting adjourned at 6:51pm.

NEXT MEETING:

The next regular meeting is scheduled for 5:30 pm on February 19, 2018, at Black River Public School's 491 Columbia Avenue Campus.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary M. Mims, Secretary