

BLACK RIVER PUBLIC SCHOOL
Board Meeting Minutes
October 16, 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 5:37pm on October 16, 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:

Maria Carrizales-Alonzo, Mike Camarota, Ruth Crouch, Stephanie Elhart, Mary Mims, Tom Pietri

Members Absent:

Timothy DuMez, Chris McNaughton, Brian Porter

Staff Present:

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

Public Present:

Sophia Camarota (BR Student Rep.), Abby Frankhouse (BR Student Rep.), Errol Goldman (BRPS Attorney), Shane Harrelson (BR Parent), Emily Reyes (BR Parent), Josh Reyes (BR Parent)

Media Present:

None

Item 3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

There being no corrections, all minutes of the Board's September 18, 2017 meeting, were approved upon a motion by Ms. Elhart, seconded by Ms. Carrizales-Alonzo (6-0).

Item 4. BUSINESS REPORT

Mr. Zoellner distributed and explained the September financial report. He also indicated that he has received a draft of Black River's 990 Tax Return.

Item 5. ADMINISTRATION REPORT – Shannon Brunink

Mr. Donnelly indicated that Friday was a mid-term grading day and he took the opportunity to compile Rat Buck data. He gave a shout out to the high earners as well as Mr. Rowe who demonstrated the highest teacher participation over the last month. Homecoming events took place at the VanAndel Stadium again this year and the NHS blood drive will be held at BR on Tuesday. The Parent Organization has been working hard on this year's Fun Walk Fundraiser and it will take place this Friday.

Mr. Levering recently met with the Parent Organization Leadership Committee and is excited to offer the pie throwing and lunch incentive to this year's Fun Walk participants. Mr. Zoellner added that the Paypal site tied to the fundraiser has been busy! Mr. Jim shared that Ms. Gorris was highlighted in the Holland Sentinel Teacher Spotlight. Ms. Fredenburg has also been featured for her work on a recent Market to Market project where students were given a nature rich experience. Mr. Levering continues to work with Mr. Zoellner to spend Title II funds and through this they are able to host a representative from the American Montessori Association for professional development in March.

Mr. Brunink stated that mid-term grades went live today for middle and high school students and the PSAT took place last Wednesday. Project Term course proposals are being compiled and Ms. Kruithof led a think tank activity at the recent faculty meeting in an attempt to identify resources among the staff. Many field trips are taking place and the 8th grade students saw The Tempest at GVSU while the 11th grade students will be traveling to Chicago next week. Parent Teacher Conferences will take place on October 26 & 27. He applauded the work of BR athletes and highlighted that District Soccer competitions will start on campus tomorrow while Volleyball and Cross Country will take place in two weeks. Installation has begun of the new security system and it will be implemented in waves over the next few months. Millage discussions took place at a recent Superintendents meeting.

Item 6. PRESIDENT'S REPORT / BOARD COMMITTEE REPORTS

Ms. Elhart explained that she has met with Ms. Klunder to discuss new ways to market Black River. Informational videos to showcase the work done at BR may help the community understand what our students do. It is time to update school policies and Ms. Elhart is evaluating the costs associated with contracting the Charter Schools Institute. She is also continuing work to reboot the Black River logo.

Item 7. GVSU UPDATE

There was not an update from GVSU.

Item 8. STUDENT REPORT

Miss Frankhouse outlined the success of this year's Homecoming activities and highlighted the updates to court ballots. Miss Camarota summarized the achievements of the fall sports teams and explained that donors will now be able to sign up online for the the NHS blood drive.

Item 9. OLD BUSINESS

There was no old business for the board to address.

Item 10. NEW BUSINESS

There was no new business brought before the board.

Item 11. OPEN FORUM / COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC

Mr. Harrelson explained that the Fun Walk will take place at the Hope College track this Friday from 5:30-7pm. He also shared that the First Robotics team participated in an open house this past Saturday and will be participating in a Zeeland invitational on October 28th.

Item 12. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the Board, the meeting adjourned at 6:21pm upon a motion by Ms. Elhart, seconded by Ms. Carrizales-Alonzo.

NEXT MEETING:

The next regular meeting is scheduled for 5:30 pm on November 20, 2017, at Black River Public School's 491 Columbia Avenue Campus.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary M. Mims, Secretary