

**BLACK RIVER PUBLIC SCHOOL**  
**Board Meeting Minutes**  
**May 21, 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 5:37pm on May 21, 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:

Mike Camarota, Maria Carrizales-Alonzo, Ruth Crouch, Timothy DuMez, Stephanie Elhart, Mary Mims, Tom Pietri, Brian Porter

Members Absent:

Chris McNaughton

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:

Bill Barker (GVSU Charter Schools Office), Sophia Camarota (BR Student Rep.), 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 April 16, 2018 meeting, were approved upon a motion by Ms. Elhart, seconded by Ms. Carrizales-Alonzo. (8-0)

**Item 4. BUSINESS REPORT**

Mr. Zoellner distributed the April Financial Report as well as a Custodial Services RFP Analysis. The Financial Committee meeting will take place on May 31st.

**Motion to accept** the HI-TEC Building Services 3 year contract with an additional 2 optional years as proposed. The resolution passed unanimously upon a motion by Ms. Elhart, seconded by Mr. Pietri. (8-0)

**Item 5. ADMINISTRATION REPORT**

Mr. Donnelly was excited that he was able to participate in a wakeboarding Project Term class this week. The Middle School and High School honors assemblies took place last month and the 8th grade lockin took place on May 18th. This year's Prom was held at the Felt Mansion in Saugatuck and senior graduation will take place at 7pm on Friday, June 1st.

Mr. Levering explained that they had an amazing turnout at this year's parent orientation which has proven to be an important link for families in transitional years as well as new parents. He discussed the 3rd grade reading law and indicated that roster meetings have begun. Fifth Grade Graduation took place on May 17th. The Noetics team wrapped up the spring session with many students placing nationally or receiving honorable mentions. Four Black River teachers were honored recently at an Amazing Teacher Banquet including Ms. Fran Olesen, Ms. Rayna Davids, Ms. Beth Kiurski, and Ms. Tara Gorris. Mr. Levering was also proud to share that he received a letter from the State of Michigan indicating that Black River is officially finished with the Title I on site review.

Mr. Brunink thanked Ms. Jen Wise for her work ensuring AP exams are administered successfully. He has been working with Ms. Tricia Schrotenboer about graduation requirements for 8th and 12th grade students. He discussed enrollment numbers for next year and distributed documents related to the proposed enhancement millage.

**Motion to approve** the resolution endorsing the ISD's proposed enhancement millage. The resolution passed unanimously upon a motion by Ms. Elhart, seconded by Mr. Pietri. (8-0)

**Item 6. PRESIDENT'S REPORT**

Ms. Elhart administered the oath of office to Mr. Pietri for a new 3 year term on Black River's Board of Trustees and submitted the corresponding paperwork to GVSU. The survey soliciting ideas for a new school identity received mixed responses and it has been decided that we will re evaluate for the school's 25th anniversary. Ms. Elhart will be speaking at this year's senior graduation as both she and Mr. Camarota have students graduating. She will be meeting with Mr. Brunink next week to go over the performance appraisal and will meet with the nominating committee to discuss open positions on the board. Mr. Levering was also congratulated for being a finalist for MAPSA's 2018 Administrator of the Year.

**Item 7. GVSU UPDATE**

Mr. Barker presented Ms. Mims with a service award from Grand Valley State University and thanked her for more than 20 years of service on Black River's Board of Trustees. He distributed GVSU's school performance marketing as well as a 3 year planner. Board members were reminded of the upcoming Tiger's game and golf outing hosted by the GVSU Charter School Office.

**Item 8. STUDENT REPORT**

Miss Camarota outlined the event organized in remembrance of the Columbine school shooting. This event took place on the recent ¾ day and benefitted Kid's Food Basket. She explained that Seniors have completed the majority of their academic requirements and that the Senior Capstone Open House will take place on May 24th. Last Friday's track regionals resulted in four state qualifiers and the baseball team had the Fifth Third Family Fun Night on May 16th.

**Item 9. OLD BUSINESS**

There was no old business for the board to address.

**Item 10. NEW BUSINESS**

Mr. Camarota explained that he has been in communication with another local district on Title 9 education sharing and the development of policies and procedures. He also outlined a bill debated by the House of Representatives regarding school safety.

**Item 11. OPEN FORUM / COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC**

There were no comments from the public.


**Item 12. ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business to come before the board, a motion was made by Ms. Elhart, seconded by Mr. Porter to adjourn the meeting at 7:07 pm. (8-0)

**NEXT MEETING:**

The next regular meeting is scheduled for 5:30 pm on June 25, 2018, at Black River Public School's 491 Columbia Avenue Campus.

Respectfully submitted,

  
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Mary M. Mims, Secretary