

BLACK RIVER PUBLIC SCHOOL
Board Meeting Minutes
September 17, 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 Tom Pietri at 5:37pm on September 17, 2018, in room 229 at the school's Columbia Avenue campus. Recognition was made that a quorum was present through a roll call.

Mr. Pietri administered the oath of office to Mr. Kibler to officially begin his term on Black River's Board of Trustees. Documentation was signed and submitted to the Grand Valley Charter Schools Office.

Item 2. ROLL CALL

Members Present:

Mike Camarota, Maria Carrizales-Alonzo, Ruth Crouch, Stephanie Elhart, David Kibler, Mary Mims, Kim Mitchell, Tom Pietri, Brian Porter

Members Absent:

None

Staff Present:

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

Public Present:

Matt Cawood (GVSU Charter Schools Office), Craig Davis (Proposed Board Member), Errol Goldman (BRPS Attorney), Mary Rynsburger (BR Parent), Aanya Usmani (BR Student Rep.)

Media Present:

None

Item 3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

There being no corrections, all minutes of the Board's August 20, 2018 meeting, were approved upon a motion by Mr. Pietri, seconded by Ms. Carrizales-Alonzo. (9-0)

Item 4. BUSINESS REPORT

Mr. Zoellner presented the audit for year ending June 30, 2018 and explained that Black River received an unqualified opinion.

Motion to approve the 2018 audit. The resolution passed unanimously upon a motion by Mr. Pietri, seconded by Ms. Elhart. (9-0)

Item 5. ADMINISTRATION REPORT

Mr. Donnelly welcomed Miss Usmani as the new student representative to the board. He also thanked the social work team for their continued support of the BR population.

Mr. Levering explained that it has been a busy month. Curriculum night introduced elementary families to the general expectations. First Lego League, Noetics, and Odyssey of the Mind have all begun. This year's reading chain celebration boasted 80% participation and Mr. Levering applauded Ms. Gort for her work with the bookfair stating that she "out does herself every year!" The Black River Elementary has started a new "refreshing recess" program which includes the option for structured activities and a run/walk club.

Mr. Brunink indicated that they are working to understand the full extent of the water damage in the Science buildings. He outlined enrollment for this year and emphasized the desire to make decisions that do not sacrifice Black River's mission. Mr. Pietri requested that the school look in to possible ways to utilize waitlists in the elementary grade levels rather than need to recruit in Middle School and High School. Mr. Brunink distributed the enhancement millage powerpoint and indicated the local school leaders are working to disseminate information from the OAISD. The proposal will be on the November 6 ballot.

Item 6. PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Mr. Pietri thanked Miss Usmani for taking the position of student board representative and indicated that he is eager to answer any questions she may have. He also outlined the events of the upcoming Homecoming festivities at Hope College. Ms. Carrizales-Alonzo thanked the Bos family for their concessions donations again this year and invited the board to the September 28 event. Further discussion was had on how to market enrollment at Black River to create a modern and consistent visibility in the community.

Item 7. GVSU UPDATE

Mr. Cawood introduced himself as the new representative from GVSU.

Item 8. OLD BUSINESS

There was no old business for the board to address.

Item 9. NEW BUSINESS

There was no new business for the board to address.

Item 10. OPEN FORUM / COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC

There were no comments from the public.

Item 11. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the board, a motion was made by Mr. Pietri, seconded by Ms. Carrizales-Alonzo to adjourn the meeting at 7:00 pm. (9-0)

NEXT MEETING:

The next regular meeting is scheduled for 5:30 pm on October 15, 2018, at Black River Public School's 491 Columbia Avenue Campus.

Respectfully submitted,



Mary M. Mims, Secretary