

BLACK RIVER PUBLIC SCHOOL
Board Meeting Minutes
May 15, 2017

Item 1. CALL TO ORDER

The regular meeting of the Board of Trustees of Black River Public School was called to order by Vice President Maria Carrizales-Alonzo at 5:35pm on May 15, 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, Gregory Christie, Ruth Crouch, Chris McNaughton, Tom Pietri

Members Absent:

Timothy DuMez, Stephanie Elhart, Mary Mims, Brian Porter

Staff Present:

Shannon Brunink (Head of School), Michelle Byrne (Administrative Assistant), John Donnelly (Dean of Students), John Zoellner (Business Director)

Public Present:

Zachary Browne (BR Student), Cheryl Edwards-Canon (GVSU Charter Schools Office), Amy Fox (BR Parent), Errol Goldman (BRPS Attorney), Shane Harrelson (BR Parent), Ann Hoekstra (BR Parent)

Media Present:

None

Item 3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

There being no corrections, all minutes of the board's April 24, 2017 meeting were approved upon a motion by Ms. Carrizales-Alonzo, seconded by Ms. Crouch. (5-0)

Item 4. ADMINISTRATION REPORT

Mr. Donnelly explained that he was proud of the soccer teams that played at this year's Spring Thing events and applauded the students that participated in the 2017 Riverbank Run. Prom took place the next evening at A Cut Above Event Center in Saugatuck. CPR/AED/Epi Pen training will take place on May 16th and the city has scheduled a meeting to discuss plans for the upcoming traffic light installation on the corner of 16th Street and Columbia Ave.

Mr. Brunink outlined the approaching 5th and 12th grade graduations and indicated that the 8th grade field trip will take place on May 12th. The recent middle school and high school awards assemblies proved to be a valuable opportunity for students to celebrate the accomplishments of their peers. Mr. Brunink took the opportunity to recognize the accomplishment of BR senior Mr. Zachary Browne who has been awarded a four year Army ROTC Scholarship to Texas A&M. MStep, NWEA, and AP Exams have all been completed and he praised Ms. Wise for her work with this year's testing.

Mr. Brunink explained that Ms. DeHaan has decided to move on next year, leaving an opening in the Spanish department. Mr. Zoellner has been working with Weadock and Associates to come up with creative options for next year's medical benefits. A representative from the Michigan Department of Education has called to set up a time to visit Black River. They would like to learn some of the best practices of Michigan's highly achieving schools. Mr. Brunink attended a meeting about improvements to the HVAC controllers and learned how this system can also power an upgraded security system.

A recent meeting at the Outdoor Discovery Center provided an opportunity for collaboration with Mr. David Tebo, Superintendent of Hamilton Community Schools. The ODC provides resources to train teachers on how to meet state Science requirements outside the classroom. Mr. Brunink was also grateful to Dr. Brian Davis, Superintendent of Holland Public Schools, for agreeing to house Black River's busses over the summer break.

Item 5. BUSINESS REPORT

Mr. Zoellner distributed the April financial report and explained that he will bring the Budget Adjustment to the June board meeting. He also indicated that the Michigan Department of Education has approved the food service contract. Black River will be able to re-bid for the 2018-2019 school year.

Item 6. PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Ms. Carrizales-Alonzo read a brief biography of Mr. Mike Camarota, a prospective board member, and highlighted the experience in finance that he brings to the committee.

Motion to recommend the appointment of Mr. Mike Camarota to the Black River Board of Trustees. The resolution was approved upon a motion by Ms. Carrizales-Alonzo, seconded by Ms. Crouch. (5-0)

Item 7. GVSU UPDATE

Ms. Edwards-Canon indicated that GVSU will conduct their interview of Mr. Camarota and determine how to stagger board terms appropriately. She explained that Dr. Rob Kimball has

taken over the position of Associate Vice President for Charter Schools. She reminded the board of the upcoming Tiger's Game and golf outing hosted by GVSU.

The oath of office was administered to Ms. Carrizales-Alonzo and Ms. Crouch whose board terms were up for reappointment.

Item 8. STUDENT REPORT

A student report was not brought before the board.

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. PUBLIC COMMENT/OPEN FORUM

Mr. Zachary Browne shared the story of his personal journey through high school and expressed concerns he has with the senior capstone project.

Item 12. CLOSED SESSION

It was moved by Ms. Carrizales-Alonzo and supported by Mr. Pietri to move into closed session to review a written legal opinion pursuant to Section 8 (h) of the Open Meetings Act. A roll call vote was conducted. Ayes: Ms. Carrizales-Alonzo, Mr. Christie, Ms. Crouch, Mr. McNaughton, Mr. Pietri. Nays: None. Motion passed. The Board of Trustees moved into closed session at 6:31pm.

Item 13. RETURN TO OPEN FORUM

It was moved by Mr. Christie and supported by Ms. Crouch to move out of closed session. A roll call vote was conducted. Ayes: Ms. Carrizales-Alonzo, Mr. Christie, Ms. Crouch, Mr. McNaughton, Mr. Pietri. Nays: None. Motion passed. The Board of Trustees moved out of closed session at 7:01pm.

Item 14. ADJOURN

There being no further business to come before the board, a motion was made by Ms. Carrizales Alonzo, seconded by Mr. Pietri to adjourn the meeting at 7:02 pm. (5-0)

NEXT MEETING

The next regular meeting is scheduled for 5:30pm on June 26, 2017, at Black River Public School's Columbia Avenue campus.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary M. Mims, Secretary