

BLACK RIVER PUBLIC SCHOOL
Board Meeting Minutes
November 18, 2024

Item 1. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting of the Board of Directors of Black River Public School was called to order by President Elisabeth Bauman at 5:32pm on November 18, 2024, in room 229 at the school's Columbia Avenue campus. Recognition was made that a quorum was present through a roll call.

Ms. Bauman administered the oath of office to new board members Mr. Abe Carrillo and Ms. Kim Koeman.

Item 2. ROLL CALL

Members Present:

Sarah Bast, Elisabeth Bauman, Matt Benson, Abe Carillo, Craig Davis, Kim Koeman, TJ McDonald, Tom McGough

Members Absent:

Mary Mims

Staff Present:

Eliza Bivins Fink (BR Teacher), Shannon Brunink (Head of School), Michelle Byrne (Administrative Assistant), Rachel Carlson (Business Manager), Adriann Divozzo (BR Teacher), John K. Donnelly (Dean of Students), Kim VanKints (BR Teacher), John Zoellner (Business Director)

Public Present:

Henrik Bauman, Arabella Benson, Matt Cawood, Errol Goldman, Megan Hanneken, Olive McGough

Media Present:

None

Item 3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

There being no corrections, all minutes of the Board's October 21, 2024 meeting were approved upon a motion by Ms. Bauman, seconded by Mr. Benson. (8-0)

Item 4. BUSINESS REPORT

Mr. Zoellner shared formal copies of the final audit report with members of the board. He also distributed the September financial report and explained the key points.

Item 5. ADMINISTRATION REPORT

Mr. Donnelly explained that he has been working on bathroom vandalism issues and outlined the temporary new procedures implemented to address it. The State of Michigan is updating their platform for schools to submit anti harassment and anti bullying policies. Mr. Donnelly will seek the board's approval to reaffirm the school's policy at the next meeting. They continue to align the school's emergency operations plan to keep it up to date with the nationally recognized model endorsed by the OASSN. Most recently, they were trained on ways to strengthen reunification processes.

Mr. Brunink outlined the upcoming faculty inservice and explained that staff have led some very valuable sessions. He highlighted parent teacher conferences, boundaries training, blue envelope training, field trips, upcoming concerts and winter athletics. He explained that Project Term course registration has begun and applauded the incredible work done by Ms. Jen Wise to make that happen. With the addition of buses #60 and #70 added to the fleet they have officially retired #10. Ms. Tammy Clark has moved on to another position and interviews have been conducted to fill that opening. Mr. Brunink was excited to host charter school leaders from two schools for a recent tour. He also brought the board's attention to an upcoming millage vote to renew special education funding in Ottawa County that will continue to help our students.

Item 6. FACULTY COUNCIL REPORT

Ms. Bivins Fink explained that Faculty Council is reviewing the annual survey results and are discussing classroom space concerns with the school's administration and facilities team.

Item 7. STUDENT REPORT

Miss Benson shared that the winter sports season has begun. A staff vs. varsity basketball fundraiser will take place on Thursday, and last week, captains organized a girls conditioning event.

Mr. Bauman indicated that Snowcoming activities will take place the weekend of January 31st. Six sophomores recently represented BR at a student Athletics Conference, music departments are preparing for winter concerts, and after their recent performance of The Rememberer, the theater department is holding auditions for Mamma Mia.

They shared that the Fine Arts Boosters held their annual RatRaiser fundraiser last week and the students have created a RatRadio to play news during CAP. HS robotics are holding practices and MS will attend a state competition in December. Youth in Government is hosting our MS team in Lansing today and will have a HS conference in April. Student Council continues their work planning basketball games, snowcoming, and spirit weeks.

Item 8. PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Ms. Bauman welcomed Mr. Abe Carrillo and Ms. Kim Koeman to the board.

Item 9. GVSU REPORT

Mr. Cawood explained that the next virtual board training will be on December 16th. GVSU is working on this year's school performance reports and the core values award application is now open. MAPSA is holding a post election recap webinar and Mr. Cawood explained recent senate legislation that will affect charter schools.

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. PUBLIC COMMENT

There was no public comment.

Item 13. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the board, the meeting was adjourned at 6:22pm.

NEXT MEETING:

The next regular meeting is scheduled for 5:30 pm on December 16, 2024.

Respectfully submitted,



Mary M. Mims, Secretary