

**RIVER VALLEY LOCAL BOARD OF EDUCATION  
REGULAR SESSION BOARD MEETING  
RIVER VALLEY HIGH SCHOOL  
LIBRARY MEDIA CENTER**

**MARCH 13, 2025  
6:00 P.M.  
MINUTES**

**In order to be successful with our mission, we focus on the following goals:**

- **Safe Learning Environment**
- **High Student Achievement**
- **Effective and Efficient Operation**
- **High Performing Workforce**

**OPENING OF MEETING BY THE PRESIDENT:**

Mr. Rengert called the meeting to order at 6:00pm.

**ROLL CALL AND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT**

Mrs. Keller called roll call with the following members present: Mr. Albright, Colonel Beineke, Mr. Rengert, Mr. Smith, and Mr. Stump. Board members present at the meeting acknowledged receiving and reviewing a copy of the board meeting agenda, background material, and any other pertinent information prior to being in attendance.

**APPROVAL OF BOARD AGENDA**

**Res. 028-25** Colonel Beineke moved, seconded by Mr. Smith, to approve adoption of the agenda as presented, except for the removal of the first executive session.

Discussion: Mr. Rengert shared that the Board would not need the first executive session, but that they would be using the second executive session. The Board did not plan to take any action after using the second executive session other than adjournment.

Vote: Ayes: Beineke, Smith, Albright, Stump, Rengert  
Nays:

President Rengert declared the motion carried.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

**Res. 029-25** Mr. Smith moved, seconded by Mr. Stump, to approve the minutes from the February 13, 2025, Regular Meeting.

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Discussion: None

Vote: Ayes: Smith, Stump, Albright, Beineke, Rengert  
Nays:

President Rengert declared the motion carried.

**RECOGNITION OF VISITORS:**  
**PUBLIC PARTICIPATION AT BOARD MEETINGS**

In order for the Board to fulfill its obligation to complete the planned agenda in an effective and efficient fashion, a maximum of 30 minutes of public participation may be permitted at each meeting.

Each person addressing the Board shall give his/her name and address. If several people wish to speak, each person is allotted three minutes until the total time of 30 minutes is used. During that period, no person may speak twice until all who desire to speak have had the opportunity to do so.

Persons desiring more time should follow the procedure of the Board to be placed on the regular agenda. The period of public participation may be extended by a vote of the majority of the board.

Board Policy BDDH - Adopted October 12, 1999

- A. Introduction of Visitors
- B. Comments from Visitors

Mr. Rengert welcomed all visitors.

The River Valley Athletic Boosters and Touchdown Club representatives Matt Axline, Sara Axline, and Matt Waddle, were present to share updates regarding their programs with the Board.

Matt Axline shared that the Athletic Boosters remain in good standing both financially and as an organization since current leadership took over in 2020. Mr. Axline thanked the Board for their collaboration on the weight room addition to the CTE Expansion Project. The Athletic Boosters are approximately halfway to their fundraising goal to finish and equip the new weight room space. Fundraising efforts remain a huge part of the success of the boosters with events such as the Winter Gala, which fundraises approximately \$35-\$40K per year, as well as the car show, which fundraises approximately \$12-\$25K per year.

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Sara Axline and Matt Waddle shared information regarding the Touchdown Club. The Touchdown Club started hosting an annual golf outing approximately three years ago that raises roughly \$12-\$20K for the program. This year's outing will be on May 31<sup>st</sup> at King's Mill. The program uses these funds to invest in new equipment and build the program.

**SUPERINTENDENT'S COMMUNICATIONS/REPORTS**

**Superintendent Shares Oral/Written Correspondence/Communications**

Mr. Wickham provided the Board with an update on the bond projects. The weather has finally been cooperative, so some progress has been made to finish up at the MS/HS. They are estimating approximately 2-3 weeks until completion, weather depending. The masonry through wall flashing at Liberty is underway with that and the roofing done in approximately 2-3 weeks as well. Once the projects are complete, they will begin site remediation, weather permitting. The HVAC project has been placed on hold while waiting for the special order RTUs (roof top units) to come in. These units were received by the vendor, All Temp, this week and we are planning an installation date shortly after school is out in May.

The footers have been poured, and block is being laid by the masons for the CTE Expansion Project. Some of the metal for the building will begin being delivered March 20<sup>th</sup>.

CEP participation numbers continue to increase for breakfast. Lunch numbers were down in February compared to last year; however, we need to take the additional snow days we had this year compared to last year into consideration. Overall, our average meals served for both breakfast and lunch so far this school year are up from last year. We serve an average of 1,700 lunches per day, which is roughly 89% of our student population.

**River Valley Local Schools Building Reports/Updates:** At this time, we would like to have building updates and a report from the following:

Heritage Elementary School Principal, Melanie Comstock, that the building is getting ready for testing in April, kindergarten registration is open for the 25-26 school year, a K-5 handwriting curriculum (to address cursive) will be implemented next year pursuant to the Governor's requirements with restricted state funding (DPIA), and the building will be hosting a pancake breakfast for students and their families on Saturday, April 5<sup>th</sup>.

Liberty Elementary School Principal, Barry Dutt, shared that fun night will be March 14<sup>th</sup>, right to read week was 3/3-3/7, the building is hosting a book fair and "donuts with grown-ups" next week, and the 5<sup>th</sup> graders will be going to a camp in May pending board approval (on tonight's agenda).

Middle School Principal, Tom Bower, shared that their Egypt Night was a success, grandparent's day will be on March 14<sup>th</sup>, 8<sup>th</sup> graders went on a junior achievement trip, interviews are beginning for openings for the 25-26 school year, new MS counselor is on the agenda for the board's approval.

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High School Principal, Travis Stout, shared that the ACT is done, preparing for the final parent teacher conferences of this school year, the building did a clap out for the state wrestling qualifiers and celebrated winter sports which were very successful, spring sports have started, and the musical is coming up. Coach Brown won the MOAC coach of the year and got his 100<sup>th</sup> win during the boys' basketball tournament run. Art show was at Tri Rivers last week. Show Choir competition this past weekend at Marysville. Kelly Garrett has been taking students on college visit field trips.

Student Council Representative, Jocelyn Cummins, FFA social media updates have highlighted a lot of what is going on with their program, specifically that 5 FFA members have earned OH FFA state degrees, which is the highest achievement. The County NHS induction ceremony will be at the RVHS auditorium on April 24<sup>th</sup>. The NHS Honors breakfast will be March 14<sup>th</sup>. Approximately 100 students were invited due to having a GPA of 3.75 or higher.

Director of Instruction and Assessment, Don Gliebe, that we are currently between testing seasons. Approximately 151 students took the ACT. We have 39 3<sup>rd</sup> graders that will be taking the tera nova and state testing will begin after we return from spring break in April. The Governor implemented a Science of Reading requirement, which we have been working on getting our staff training completed. The state is reimbursing teachers that complete the required training courses through the district.

Director of Educational Technology & Communication, Tad Douce, shared that his team has been working on installing cameras and Wi-Fi access at the micro farm. His team also got to have some fun and help with some of the boys' basketball t-shirts and promotional designs during their recent tournament run.

### **NEW BUSINESS**

Mrs. Keller shared that the tax year 2024, collection year 2025 tax rates are on the agenda for approval this month and that these rates and valuations have been reviewed and approved by the County Budget Commission during the annual budget hearing that took place on February 25<sup>th</sup>. Mr. Wickham and Mrs. Keller are working on advocacy communication that will be sent out to staff, parents, and community members regarding the Governor's proposed budget. The auditors are getting close to wrapping up the fiscal year 2024 audit. As we near the end of the fiscal year the treasurer's office is preparing for end of year ordering, five-year forecast season, fiscal year 2026 budgeting, federal grant and restricted funding wrap ups, and fiscal year-end processing.

**Res. 30-25** Mr. Albright moved, seconded by Mr. Stump to approve the following information:

**A. Treasurer's Report:**

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**1. Acceptance of Donations:**

<b>Date</b>	<b>Name</b>	<b>Amount</b>	<b>Reason</b>
10/18/2024	Slemmons Excavating	\$48.00	Pole vault materials
1/1/2025	Jeffrey Miller	\$25.00	Girls Basketball
1/28/2025	Marion Crawford Prevention Program	\$1,000.00	HS 018
		\$750.00	MS 018
2/12/2025	RV Music Boosters	\$31,343.73	Band Uniforms
2/12/2025	RV Athletic Boosters	\$8,009.89	Boys Soccer
2/19/2025	Nancy Salyer	\$500.00	DC Trip
	Amit Tandon	\$734.00	
	Lou Hildreth	\$150.00	
2/20/2025	J Alan Hamilton	\$150.00	HS Cheer
2/20/2025	Park National Bank	\$1,000.00	ESports
2/21/2025	RV Music Boosters	\$284.00	Student fees
2/25/2025	Bender Communications	\$500.00	Wrestling
	Caleb & Jaime Douce	\$100.00	
	John & Krista Schweinfurth	\$100.00	

**Rebates**

<b>Date</b>	<b>Name</b>	<b>Amount</b>	<b>Purpose</b>
1/31/2025	Bureau of Workers Comp	\$1,098.74	General fund
2/14/2025	Ohiopyle Prints	\$14.45	Athletics
2/20/2025	Pepsi	\$169.30	007/018 Funds
2/21/2025	HR Imaging	\$1,340.82	HS 018
		\$1,253.90	MS 018
		\$1,108.65	LES 018
		\$1,622.94	HES 018

**2. Financial Reports:** Board Approval of the following financial information for the month of February 2025:

- a. Cash Reconciliation and Relevant Data
- b. Appropriation Summary
- c. Revenue Summary

**3. Approval of Tax Rates:** Board approval of the tax rates for tax year 2024:

**Assesses Property Values**

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Tax Year 2024  
Collection Year 2025**

Assessed Values		
Tax Year	2024	2023
Residential/Agriculture	303,955,430	300,994,950
Other Real**	74,189,710	73,315,820
Public Utility Real	534,370	485,520
Public Utility Personal	22,528,100	21,296,860
Total	401,207,610	396,093,150

\*\*Other real includes commercial, industrial and mineral properties

**Calendar year collection potential with rollback and homestead:**

Purpose	Full Millage	Eff Mills Res/Ag	Eff Mills/ Other Real	Est Yield @ 95%- All Classes
Inside:				
General	4.2*	4.2	4.2	1,600,818
Outside:				
76 Current	23.6*	13.792406	15.899438	5,616,4109
78 Current	3.2*	2.007609	2.413910	819,556
Bond Levy	1.93	1.93	1.93	735,614
Permanent Improvement Levy	2.5*	2.450540	2.485982	937,591
Total TY 2024	35.43	24.380555	26.929330	9,709,990
Total TY 2023	35.43	24.381286	26.984655	9,580,461
Total TY 2022	37.32	26.083864	28.907851	9,983,482
*20 Mill status		20.000015	22.513348	

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4. **Certificated Personnel - Substitute Teacher Approval:** Board approval of the updated March Substitute Teacher List as recommended by the North Central Ohio ESC and presented in your background materials.

Discussion: The Board and Treasurer discussed the implications of the Governor's budget proposal and how advocacy from our community and other communities across the state will be critical in hopes that the state will do their part in funding public schools instead of forcing the burden onto local taxpayers.

Vote: Ayes: Albright, Stump, Beineke, Rengert  
Nays:

Mr. Smith abstained due to his spouse being on the substitute teacher list.

President Rengert declared the motion carried.

**Superintendent Reports / Recommendations**

**Res. 031-25** Colonel Beineke moved, seconded by Mr. Albright to approve the following information:

1. **Agreements/Resolutions:**

- a. **Resolution: Agreement Between River Valley Local School District (RVLSD) and Ahead in Clouds, Inc.:** Board approval of the agreement between River Valley Local Schools and Ahead In The Clouds, Inc. to provide technology and security equipment and installation for the Career Tech Expansion Project. As outlined in your background materials.
- b. **Resolution: Agreement Between River Valley Local School District (RVLSD) and Mays Consulting:** Board approval of the Mays Consulting Professional Services contract addendum for additional services for the capital improvement project. As outlined in your background materials.
- c. **Resolution: Agreement Between River Valley Local Schools (RVLSD) and Kleingers Group:** Board approval of the agreement between River Valley Local Schools and Kleingers Group for the 2025 Pavement Rehabilitation Project Administration. As outlined in your background materials.
- d. **Resolution: Approval of the Agreement Between River Valley Local School**

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**District (RVLAD) and Sheakley:** Board approval of an agreement between River Valley Local Schools and Sheakley to participate in their Group Retrospective Rating Program for Workers' Compensation services, as presented in your background materials.

- e. **Resolution: Agreement Between River Valley Local Schools (RVLSD) and META Solutions:** Board approval of the agreement between River Valley Local Schools and META Solutions for the Master Agreement for the 2025-2026 school year and the Schedule I & II Agreement for the 2025-2026 school year as presented in your background materials.
- f. **Resolution: Agreement Between River Valley Local School District and Cardington Lincoln Local School District:** Board approval of the revised agreement with Cardington Lincoln Local School District and River Valley Local School District to share the position of Director of Food and Nutrition. Beginning August 1, 2025, through July 31, 2026. As presented in your background materials.
- g. **Resolution: Approval of Public Notice Regarding Re-Employment Following Resignation: Board** approval of the public notice of the River Valley Board of Education public meeting on the issue of re-employment following the resignation of Lavone Novotny, held on May 8, 2025, as presented in your background materials.
- h. **Resolution: Agreement Between Power4Schools and the River Valley Local School District (RVLSD):** Board approval of the agreement between Power4Schools and the River Valley Local School District (RVLSD) authorizing the execution and delivery of master electric energy sales. For the period July 2025-June 2027 and as presented in your background materials.

Discussion: None

Vote: Ayes: Beineke, Albright, Smith, Stump, Rengert  
Nays:

President Rengert declared the motion carried.

**Executive Session – Not needed**

**Certificated Personnel**

**Res. 032-25** Mr. Albright moved, seconded by Mr. Smith to approve the following information:



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- a. **Certificated Personnel – Resignation:** Board approval to accept the letter of resignation from Lindsey Cox, Permanent Substitute Teacher at River Valley Middle School, effective February 18, 2025, with regrets and best wishes and as presented in your background materials.
- b. **Certificated Personnel - Resignation:** Board approval to accept the letter of resignation from Emma Harvey, Intervention Specialist at River Valley Middle School, effective July 31, 2025, with regrets and best wishes and as presented in your background materials.
- c. **Certificated Personnel - Resignation:** Board approval to accept the letter of resignation from Hannah Jarvis, Sixth Grade Science Teacher at River Valley Middle School, effective July 31, 2025, with regrets and best wishes and as presented in your background materials.
- d. **Certificated Personnel – Employment:** Board approval to grant a one (1) year limited contract to Hannah Jarvis, as the Science Teacher at River Valley High School. Beginning with the 2025-2025\ school year. Contingent upon completion of any necessary requirements for employment/certification, per information in your background materials.
- e. **Certificated Personnel – Employment:** Board approval to employ Alyssa Newman as a Permanent Substitute and Guidance Counselor Assistant as needed for River Valley Middle School, on a one-year limited contract for the remainder of the 2024-2025 school year. As presented in your background materials, and contingent upon completion of any necessary requirements for employment/certification.
- f. **Certificated Personnel - Employment:** Board approval to grant a one (1) year limited contract to Alyssa Newman, Guidance Counselor at River Valley Middle School, for the 2025-2026 school year. Contingent upon the completion of any necessary requirements for employment/certification, as presented in your background materials.
- g. **Certificated Personnel - Extended Service Days:** Board approval of the following individuals for extended days as indicated below:  
  

Effective July 1, 2025 - June 30, 2026  
Alyssa Newman – 10 days
- h. **Certificated Personnel – Education Level Adjustment:** Board approval of an education level adjustment for Kelly Triplat, Science Teacher at River Valley High School, effective August 9, 2024, who has completed the necessary requirements for such an adjustment, as presented in your background materials.
- i. **Certificated Personnel – MOU:** Board approval to enter into an MOU agreement with Brooke Scheff to receive reimbursement through River Valley Local Schools for College Credit Plus

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(CCP) Coursework, contingent upon completion of any necessary requirements for employment/certification, and as reflected in your background materials.

Discussion: None

Vote: Ayes: Albright, Smith, Stump, Beineke, Rengert  
Nays:

President Rengert declared the motion carried.

**Classified Personnel**

**Res. 033-25** Mr. Smith moved, seconded by Colonel Beineke to approve the following information:

- a. **Classified Personnel - Administrative Contract:** Board approval to grant a one year administrative contract to Victoria Fritz, Financial Support Specialist with River Valley Local Schools, for the 2024-2025 school year. Effective March 3, 2025, contingent upon completion of necessary requirements for certification/licensure.
- b. **Classified Personnel - Employment:** Board approval to employ Jamie Gibson on a one year limited contract as an Educational Aide for Liberty Elementary School, for the 2024-2025 school year, effective January 6, 2025. Contingent upon completion of any necessary requirements for employment/certification, per information in your background materials.
- c. **Classified Personnel - Employment:** Board approval to employ Ashlea Klee on a one year limited contract as an Educational Aide for Liberty Elementary School, for the 2024-2025 school year, effective January 6, 2025. Contingent upon completion of any necessary requirements for employment/certification, per information in your background materials.
- d. **Classified Personnel - Stipend:** Board approval to pay a stipend to Jenny Kitts for Catering/Seniors on Center for the 2023-2024 school year as outlined in your background materials.
- e. **Classified Personnel – Step Adjustment:** Board approval of a step adjustment for the following people, effective for the 2023-2024 school year, as presented in your background materials.

Jerry Longacre - Custodian - River Valley High School  
Julie Martin - Custodian - River Valley Middle School  
Cindy McClenathan - Custodian - River Valley High School  
Way Ward - Custodian - Heritage Elementary School

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- f. **Classified Personnel – Substitute**: Board approval to employ the following people as a classified substitute on an as-needed basis, for the 2024-2025 school year, contingent upon completion of any necessary requirements for certification or employment, and per your background materials.

Kayla Gutierrez - Education Aide  
Jeffrey Jordan - Substitute Custodian  
Joseph Mathias - Substitute Custodian  
Teddy Vanway - Substitute Bus Driver & Custodian

Discussion: None

Vote:   Ayes: Smith, Beineke, Albright, Stump, Rengert  
      Nays:

President Rengert declared the motion carried.

**Students**

**Res. 034-25** Mr. Albright moved, seconded by Mr. Smith to approve the following information:

- a. **Extended Field Trip Preliminary and Final Approval**: Board preliminary and/or final approval of an extended field trip by the High School Wrestling team to the District Wrestling Tournament in Wilmington, Ohio on Friday, February 28, 2025, through Saturday, March 1, 2025.
- b. **Extended Field Trip Preliminary and Final Approval**: Board preliminary and/or final approval of an extended field trip by the High School Wrestling team to the State Wrestling Tournament in Columbus, Ohio on Friday, March 7, 2025, through Sunday, March 9, 2025.
- c. **Extended Field Trip Preliminary and Final Approval**: Board preliminary and/or final approval of an extended field trip by the Liberty Elementary 5th Grade Class to the Hopewood Pines Lutheran Memorial Camp in Marengo, Ohio on Wednesday, May 14, 2025 through Friday, May 16, 2025.
- d. **Extended Field Trip Preliminary and Final Approval**: Board preliminary and/or final approval of an extended field trip by the High School Boys Basketball team to the Regional Basketball Tournament game in Athens, Ohio on Thursday, March 6, 2025, through Friday, March 7, 2025.
- e. **Extended Field Trip Preliminary and Final Approval**: Board preliminary and/or final approval of an extended field trip by the High School Girls Wrestling team to the State

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Wrestling Tournament in Columbus, Ohio on Friday, March 7, 2025, through Sunday, March 9, 2025.

Discussion: The Board discussed the importance of getting extended field trips turned in for approval ahead of the event unless there are extenuating circumstances.

Vote: Ayes: Albright, Smith, Stump, Beineke, Rengert  
Nays:

President Rengert declared the motion carried.

**Executive Session**

**Res. 035-25** Mr. Stump moved to enter into executive session at 7:09pm for the purpose of:

**In accordance with ORC 121.22G1** – The appointment, employment, dismissal, discipline, promotion, demotion or compensation of a public employee or official, or the investigation of charges or complaints against a public employee, official, licensee, or regulated individual.

Discussion: None

Vote: Ayes: Stump, Beineke, Albright, Smith, Rengert  
Nays:

President Rengert declared the motion carried.

**Res. 036-25** Mr. Albright moved, seconded by Colonel Beineke to reconvene in Regular Session at 7:31pm and upon roll call vote the following members were present: Albright, Smith, Stump, Beineke, Rengert.

**DISCUSSION:** Any items of discussion by the Board. No additional items were brought up for discussion.

**Adjourn** - Thank you for coming.

**Res. 037-25** Mr. Stump moved, seconded by Mr. Smith to adjourn the meeting of the River Valley Board of Education at 7:32pm.

Discussion: None

Vote: Ayes: Stump, Smith, Albright, Beineke, Rengert

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Nays:

President Rengert declared the motion carried.

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Board President

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Attest