

BLACK RIVER PUBLIC SCHOOL
Board Meeting Minutes
March 17, 2025

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 5:31pm on March 17, 2025, 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:

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

Members Absent:

Abe Carillo, Mary Mims

Staff Present:

Shannon Brunink (Head of School), Michelle Byrne (Administrative Assistant), Rachel Carlson (Business Manager), Adriann Divozzo (BR Teacher), Mara Koning (BR Social Work), Jim Levering (Elementary Administrator), Sarah Lozano (BR Teacher), Haley Masse (BR Teacher), Jake Stid (BR Teacher), Kim VanKints (BR Teacher), John Zoellner (Business Director)

Public Present:

Arabella Benson, Matt Cawood, Nitya Gandhi, Avery Hanneken, Megan Hanneken, Barb Jonker, Becky Pomp

Media Present:

None

Item 3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

There being no corrections, all minutes of the Board's February 17, 2025 meeting were approved upon a motion by Ms. Bauman, seconded by Mr. Davis. (7-0)

Item 4. BUSINESS REPORT

Mr. Zoellner indicated that the Financial Committee met on March 13th. He distributed Budget Adjustment 1 and highlighted the key points. Budget Adjustment 2 will be presented at the June meeting alongside the proposed budget for next year.

Motion to approve Budget Adjustment 1 as presented. The resolution passed unanimously upon a motion by Ms. Bauman, seconded by Mr. Benson. (7-0)

He discussed the five year projection and ended with an introduction of the new addition to the Business Office, Ms. Amanda Lubbers.

Item 5. ADMINISTRATION REPORT

Mr. Brunink explained that this will be Mr. Zoellner's last board meeting as he is wrapping up his time at BR. He will remain on call to support Ms. Carlson and Ms. Lubbers throughout the transition. Mr. Brunink thanked him for his expertise, efficiency, and everything he has added to the team over the years.

Mr. Levering outlined current enrichment programs the elementary is offering including Rats on the Run, TTQ, and Chess Club. He thanked volunteers who put on this semester's Bookfair. The proceeds from the Bookfair and the March is Reading Month Fundraiser support the book vending machine. He highlighted shadow day, the spelling bee, and the elementary skating party.

Mr. Brunink also thanked Ms. Barb Jonker and her volunteers for their work with the Bookfair. He explained that the Sex Ed Advisory Board, led by Mr. Peter Middleton has been meeting and is ready to appoint their co-chairs.

Motion to approve the appointment of Dr. Kate Davis, and Dr. Jeanne Poel as co-chairs of the Sex Ed Advisory Board. The resolution passed unanimously upon a motion by Ms. Bauman, seconded by Ms. Koeman. (7-0)

Mr. Brunink discussed the effect of changes at the federal level on Black River's funding. He explained the upcoming Special Education Millage Proposal and how the ISD supports our school. He outlined the Columbia Avenue Resurfacing Project as well as where things stand with enrollment for next school year.

Item 6. FACULTY COUNCIL REPORT

Ms. Van Kints reshared the QR code with Faculty Council's recommendations. She explained that they have surveyed the staff on the committee's performance and will be working to reintroduce BREAD club with the goal of promoting community between buildings. She asked about hourly employee compensation and updates to the handbook.

Item 7. STUDENT REPORT

Miss Benson and Miss Gandhi highlighted spring sports, robotics competitions, Green Team initiatives, the NHS blood drive, and the recent Mamma Mia performance. They also indicated that National Honor Society applications have been received and the new member induction will take place in April. Student Council elections have also been held.

Item 8. PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Motion to approve the reappointment of Mr. TJ McDonald to another three year term on Black River's Board of Trustees. The resolution passed unanimously upon a motion by Ms. Bauman, seconded by Mr. Davis (7-0)

Ms. Bauman indicated that many members of the board have met with Mr. Donnelly to discuss the updated Emergency Operations Plan and encouraged others that are interested to do so as well.

Item 9. GVSU REPORT

Mr. Cawood reminded the board that Ms. Sarah Bast, Mr. TJ McDonald, and Ms. Mary Mims all have terms that expire in June. He shared that the next virtual training opportunity will be on April 24th and the Annual Board Reception will be held in May.

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

Ms. Hanneken asked questions about the website's transparency page and the sample Head of School evaluation tool utilized by the board. Ms. Bauman indicated that the next round of evaluations will be done this spring.

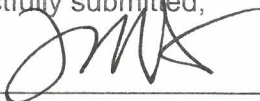
Item 13. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the board, the meeting was adjourned at 7:11pm.

NEXT MEETING:

The next regular meeting is scheduled for 5:30 pm on April 21, 2025.

Respectfully submitted,



Mary M. Mims, Secretary