

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

**FEBRUARY 12, 2026
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

Vice President Albright 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, and Mr. Stump. Board members present at the meeting acknowledge receiving and reviewing a copy of the board meeting agenda, background materials, and other pertinent information prior to being in attendance.

APPROVAL OF BOARD AGENDA

Res. 020-26 Colonel Beineke moved, seconded by Mr. Albright to approve adoption of the agenda as present, except for the removal of the first executive session.

Discussion: None

Vote: Ayes: Beineke, Albright, Stump
 Nays:

Vice President Albright declared the motion carried.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Res. 021-26 Mr. Stump moved, seconded by Colonel Beineke, to approve the minutes from the January 8, 2026, Regular and Organizational Meeting.

Discussion: None

Vote: Ayes: Stump, Beinke, Albright
 Nays:

Vice President Albright declared the motion carried.

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

**FEBRUARY 12, 2026
6:00 P.M.
MINUTES**

RECOGNITION OF VISITORS
PUBLIC PARTICIPATION AT BOARD MEETINGS

In order for the Board to fulfill its obligation to complete the 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. Albright welcomed those in attendance. No visitors requested to address the Board.

SUPERINTENDENT'S COMMUNICATIONS/REPORTS
Superintendent Shares Oral/Written Correspondence/Communications

Mr. Wickham provided the Board with an update on the bus safety grant award the district recently received in the amount of \$33,819.

The district may partner with Pleasant Local Schools to assist them in building an agricultural education/FFA program.

Mr. Wickham reviewed the status of our CEP program and we are down on meals served compared to last year and he intends to dive into the why and find a way how to fix it.

There are approximately two weeks left on the roofing project for the athletic buildings and administration office. The dugouts are complete.

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

**FEBRUARY 12, 2026
6:00 P.M.
MINUTES**

The HVAC software program and controls are the only remaining unfinished items of the bond levy projects. The design consultants for each of the projects will be providing information for one of our next Voice of the Valley articles to update our community.

The OpenGate weapons detectors will be rolled out at the elementary buildings in March. The students will do a run-through prior to the implementation date.

The district will be partnering with Tri-Rivers and First Consolidated on a capital budget request. First Consolidated will take the lead on the project, but we have facilitated by connecting some of our resources. The project will be focused on career technical education and career development.

River Valley Local Schools Building Reports/Updates: At this time, we would like to have building updates and a report from our student representative.

Heritage Elementary School, John Wickersham, shared that the 5th grade career day will be February 26th with 10-12 local businesses coming to talk with students about various career opportunities; staff have handled online days well; PTO Valentine's Dance was canceled due to bad weather, but will be rescheduled as a spring fling; Heart of It All Food Drive and backpack blessings taking place later this month.

Liberty Elementary School, Zach Burns, PTO Valentine's Dance will take place February 13th; parent-teacher conferences will be February 26th with a focus on RIMPs; specials night and literacy night will be February 20th; students have been loving having Olive in the building once per week; and winter sports teams will be coming to eat lunch with students for no one eats alone day.

Director of K-5 Teaching & Learning-Heritage/Liberty Elementary, Melanie Comstock, shared that the focus has been on winter diagnostics and evaluating growth; finding gaps and getting teachers to be okay with creativity in their teaching to help kids; this position has allowed her to dive into data and help guide teachers to help kids become more successful.

Student Council Representative, Abigail Neff, shared that prom season is coming up on May 9th in Waldo; Jr ACT sign-ups just took place with the ACT on February 24th; pep band will perform at their last game February 13th; tryouts for baseball and softball are next week; and the HS Musical will be Wizard of Oz April 17th-April 19th.

High School, Travis Stout, shared that career café will take place on February 12th; show choir season is underway; scholarship recipient season is approaching; the Accuplacer is done; incoming 9th grade CCP meeting; and the building is going through upgrades with pictures of current students hung up.

Director of Instruction and Assessment, Don Gliebe, shared that we are changing from mid-year

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

**FEBRUARY 12, 2026
6:00 P.M.
MINUTES**

diagnostic and gifted testing season to ACT season and Ohio State Tests; Plat4m is a new curriculum guidance program for our gym and health classes, but is also being used as a staff wellness challenge; need new math curriculum- waiting on quotes to finish coming in before an overall assessment can be made.

Director of Educational Technology & Communication, Tad Douce, shared that he recently attended a technology conference in Columbus focusing on cybersecurity; eSports had 20 students participate this year with four different titles played and two of them making it to postseason.

NEW BUSINESS

Mrs. Keller presented the district’s updated financial forecast. Mrs. Keller also shared that budget meetings for the 2026-2027 school year have started as well as DPIA and Student Wellness and Success Funds planned for next year with reductions in state support, and all W2s and 1099s have been sent out to staff/contractors and the SSA/IRS.

Res. 022-26 Colonel Beineke moved, seconded by Mr. Stump to approve the following information:

A. **Treasurer’s Report:**

1. **Presentation of Forecast:** The Treasurer will present the February submission of the forecast for review and discussion.

B. **Treasurer’s Report and Recommendations:**

1. **Acceptance of Donations:**

Donations:

Date	Name	Amount	Purpose
1/7/2026	Marion Public Library	\$100.00	Orchestra

2. **Asset Disposals:** Board approval to dispose of the following assets, per the information presented in your background materials:

Disposal of 20 blue plastic office chairs on Gov Deals
Disposal of 4 fabric office chairs sold on Gov Deals
Disposal of Military Bench Weight Equipment sold on Gov Deals
Disposal of 110 broken student chairs, 35 broken student desks, 10 broken student stools and four boxes of broken plastic seat and seat backs for student desks.

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

**FEBRUARY 12, 2026
6:00 P.M.
MINUTES**

3. **Acknowledge Receipt:** Acknowledge receipt of the following financial reports for the month of January 2026:
 - a. Cash Reconciliation and Relevant Data
 - b. Appropriation Summary
 - c. Revenue Summary

4. **North Central Ohio Education Service Center - Substitute Teacher Approval:** Board approval of the updated Substitute Teacher List for February 2026 as recommended by the North Central Ohio ESC and as presented in your background material.

5. **Appropriation Adjustments:** Board approval of the following appropriation adjustments:

Discussion: None

Vote: Ayes: Beineke, Stump, Albright
Nays:

Vice President Albright declared the motion carried.

Superintendent Reports / Recommendations

Res. 023-26 Mr. Albright moved, seconded by Mr. Stump, to approve the following information:

1. **Agreements/Resolutions:**

a. **Resolution: Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) Between River Valley Local School District and the River Valley Teacher's Association:** Board approval of the MOU agreement between River Valley Local Schools and the River Valley Teacher's Association, to receive a stipend through River Valley Local Schools for College Credit Plus (CCP) Teaching, contingent upon completion of any necessary requirements for employment/certification, and as reflected in your background materials. per the terms and conditions as set forth in the agreement in your background materials.

b. **Resolution: Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) Between River Valley Local School District and the River Valley Teacher's Association:** Board approval of the MOU agreement between River Valley Local Schools and the River Valley Teacher's Association, to receive reimbursement through River Valley Local Schools

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

**FEBRUARY 12, 2026
6:00 P.M.
MINUTES**

for Extra Duty Assignment: Pre-Contracted Hours Metal Detector Screening, contingent upon completion of any necessary requirements for employment/certification, and as reflected in your background materials. per the terms and conditions as set forth in the agreement in your background materials.

- c. **Resolution: Ohio Education Policy Institute Membership:** Board approval of the Ohio Education Policy Institute (OEPI) Membership for 2026, as outlined in your background materials.
- d. **Resolution: Revised Agreement for Education Services Between the River Valley Local School District and the North Central Ohio Educational Service Center:** Board approval to enter into the revised FY2026 agreement between the River Valley Local School District and the North Central Ohio ESC, for the purpose of the ESC providing education services to assist the district per the terms and conditions as set forth in the agreements in your background materials.
- e. **Resolution: 2026-2027 Revised Mileage Rates:** Board approval of the revised new standard mileage rate effective 1/1/2026 of \$0.725 per mile per IRS guidelines. As presented in your background materials.
- f. **Resolution: Membership in OHSAA for the 2026-2027 School Year:**

WHEREAS River Valley Local Schools, 197 Brocklesby Road, Caledonia, Marion County, Ohio has satisfied all the requirements for membership in the Ohio High School Athletic Association, a voluntary unincorporated association not-for-profit; and

WHEREAS, The Board of Education ("Board") and its Administration desire for the schools with one or more grades at the 7-12 grade level under their jurisdiction to be voluntary members of the OHSAA;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF EDUCATION that River Valley Local Schools hereby voluntarily renews their membership in the OHSAA and that in doing so, the Constitution and Bylaws of the OHSAA are hereby adopted by this Board as and for its own minimum student-athlete eligibility requirements. Notwithstanding the foregoing, the Board reserves the right to raise the student-athlete eligibility standards as the Board deems appropriate for the schools and students under its jurisdiction; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the schools under this Board's jurisdiction agree to conduct their athletic programs in accordance with the Constitution, Bylaws, Regulations, interpretations and decisions of the OHSAA and to cooperate fully and timely with the Commissioner's Office of the

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

**FEBRUARY 12, 2026
6:00 P.M.
MINUTES**

OHSAA in all matters related to the interscholastic athletic programs of the schools. Furthermore, the schools under this Board's jurisdiction shall be the primary enforcers of the OHSAA Constitution, Bylaws and Sports Regulations, and interpretations and rulings rendered by the Commissioner's Office. The administrative heads of these schools understand that failure to discharge the duty of primary enforcement may result in fines, removal from tournaments, suspension of membership, and/or other such penalties as prescribed in Bylaw 11.

Discussion: None

Vote: Ayes: Albright, Stump, Beineke
Nays:

Vice President Albright declared the motion carried.

Executive Session- Not Needed

Certificated Personnel

Res. 024-26 Colonel Beineke moved, seconded by Mr. Albright, to approve the following information:

- a. **Certificated Personnel - Resignation**: Board approval to accept a letter of resignation for the purpose of retirement from Joann Kline, Speech and Language Pathologist at River Valley Local Schools, with regrets and best wishes. Letter received January 21, 2026. Retirement is effective at the end of the 2025-2026 school year, as presented in your background materials.
- b. **Certificated Personnel - Resignation**: Board approval to accept a letter of resignation for the purpose of retirement from LaVone Novotny, Fifth Grade Teacher at Liberty Elementary School, with regrets and best wishes. Letter received January 12, 2026. Retirement is effective at the end of the 2025-2026 school year, as presented in your background materials.
- c. **Certificated Personnel - Resignation**: Board approval to accept a letter of resignation from Alexis Stiverson, Permanent Substitute Teacher at River Valley Middle School, with regrets and best wishes. Resignation is effective February 6, 2026, as presented in your background materials.
- d. **Certificated Personnel - Employment**: Board approval of a Supplemental Contract for Heidi Reale as the Program Coordinator for Nurse Aide Training and Competency Evaluation Program (NATCEP) at River Valley High School. Retroactive to the beginning of the 2025-

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

**FEBRUARY 12, 2026
6:00 P.M.
MINUTES**

2026 school year. Contingent upon completion of any necessary requirements for employment/certification and as presented in your background materials.

- e. **Certificated Personnel – Education Level Adjustment**: Board approval of an education level adjustment for Brooke Scheff, Seventh Grade Language Arts Teacher at River Valley Middle Schools who has completed the necessary requirements for such an adjustment. Education level adjustment effective January 8, 2026, as presented in your background materials.

Discussion: None

Vote: Ayes: Beineke, Albright, Stump
Nays:

Vice President Albright declared the motion carried.

Classified Personnel

Res. 025-26 Mr. Albright moved, seconded by Mr. Stump, to approve the following information:

- a. **Classified Personnel - Resignation**: Board approval to accept a letter of resignation for the purpose of retirement from Gladys Lucas, Bus Driver, at River Valley Local Schools. Retirement is effective September 8, 2025, as presented in your background materials.
- b. **Classified Personnel – Employment**: Board approval to employ Stephanie Richie as a 5 Hour Assistant Cook at Liberty Elementary School, effective January 5, 2026. Contingent upon completion of any necessary requirements for employment/certification and as presented in your background materials.
- c. **Classified Personnel – Employment**: Board approval to employ Abby Itterly, as an educational aide at Heritage Elementary School, effective February 6, 2026. Contingent upon completion of any necessary requirements for employment/certification and as presented in your background materials.
- d. **Classified Personnel – Employment**: Board approval to employ Jim Jordan, for Snow Plowing/Winter help for River Valley Local Schools, retroactive to December 1, 2025. Contingent upon completion of any necessary requirements for employment/certification and as presented in your background materials.

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

**FEBRUARY 12, 2026
6:00 P.M.
MINUTES**

- e. **Classified Personnel - Substitute**: Board approval to employ the following people as a classified substitute for the 2025-2026 school year. Contingent upon completion of necessary requirements for certification/licensure.

Mariah Morgan - Classified Bus Aide

James Roberts - Classified substitute bus driver - Effective January 30, 2026

June Welsh - Classified substitute bus driver – Effective February 2, 2026

Discussion: None

Vote: Ayes: Albright, Stump, Beineke
Nays:

Vice President Albright declared the motion carried.

Supplementals

Res. 026-26 Mr. Albright moved, seconded by Colonel Beineke, to approve the following information:

1. **Personnel – Supplementals**

WHEREAS, this Board has posted positions as being available to employees of the district who hold educator licenses, and no such employee meeting all of the Board's qualifications has applied for, been offered, and accepted such positions, and

WHEREAS, this board then advertised these positions as being available to licensed individuals not employed by this district, and no such person meeting all of the Board's qualifications has applied for, been offered, and accepted such positions,

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED that coaching positions may be granted to non-licensed individuals for the 2025-2026 school year, contingent upon completion of any necessary requirements for employment/certification, per information in your background materials.

- a. **Supplemental - Resignation**: Board approval to accept the letter of resignation from Candi Culler, Color Guard Advisor at River Valley High School, with regrets and best wishes and as presented in your background materials.
- b. **Supplemental - Resignation**: Board approval to accept the letter of resignation from Alyx Conkright, Marching Band Drum Line Instructor, at River Valley High School, with regrets and best wishes and as presented in your background materials.

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

**FEBRUARY 12, 2026
6:00 P.M.
MINUTES**

c. Supplemental - Employment:

Dan Arndt – 2026-2027 River Valley High School Head Football Coach
Mike Axline - River Valley High School Head Baseball Coach
Michael Blevins - River Valley Middle School Assistant Track Coach
Tracy Boyd-Winegarner - River Valley Middle School Assistant Track Coach
Cody Castline - River Valley Middle School Assistant Track Coach
Ryan Daum - River Valley Middle School Head Track Coach
Bill Fegley - River Valley High School Varsity Assistant Track Coach
Josh Franklin - River Valley Middle School Assistant Track Coach
Todd Kellogg - River Valley High School Varsity Assistant Baseball Coach
Corey Niese - River Valley High School Junior Varsity Assistant Baseball Coach
Alexis Noe- River Valley High School Junior Varsity Softball Coach
Aric Smith - River Valley High School Varsity Boys Head Track Coach
Mark Starrs - River Valley High School Varsity Assistant Track Coach
Madison Wagner - River Valley High School Varsity Assistant Softball Coach
Andy Wheeler - River Valley High School Varsity Girls Head Track Coach

d. Supplemental - Volunteer:

Jeremy Kanagy - River Valley High School Volunteer Varsity Assistant Baseball Coach
Kevin Keller - River Valley High School Volunteer Assistant Track Coach
Kayedon Martin - River Valley High School Volunteer Assistant Softball Coach
Austin Rice - River Valley High School Volunteer Assistant Track Coach
Amanda Wilfong - River Valley High School Volunteer Gymnastics Coach

Discussion: None

Vote: Ayes: Albright, Beineke, Stump
Nays:

Vice President Albright declared the motion carried.

Executive Session

Res. 027-26 Mr. Albright moved, seconded by Mr. Stump, to enter into executive session at 7:44pm for the purpose of:

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

**FEBRUARY 12, 2026
6:00 P.M.
MINUTES**

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: Albright, Stump, Beineke
Nays:

Vice President Albright declared the motion carried.

Res. 028-26 Mr. Albright moved, seconded by Mr. Stump, to reconvene into Regular Session at 7:57pm and upon roll call vote the following board members were present: Mr. Albright, Mr. Stump, and Colonel Beineke.

Board Action

Res. 029-26 Colonel Beineke moved, seconded by Mr. Albright to approve the following information:

- a. **Administrative Contract**: Board approval of a five-year, August 1, 2027 - July 31, 2032, administrative contract to Adam Wickham, Superintendent of River Valley Local Schools, as presented in your background materials.

Discussion: None

Vote: Ayes: Beineke, Albright, Stump
Nays:

Vice President Albright declared the motion carried.

DISCUSSION: Any items of discussion by the Board.

No items were brought up for discussion.

ADJOURN - Thank you for coming.

Res. 030-26 Mr. Stump moved, seconded by Colonel Beineke to adjourn the meeting of the River Valley Board of Education at 7:58pm.

Discussion: None

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

**FEBRUARY 12, 2026
6:00 P.M.
MINUTES**

Vote: Ayes: Stump, Beineke, Albright
Nays:

Vice President Albright declared the motion carried.

Board President

Attest