

**River Valley Charter School
Board of Directors Meeting
Meeting # 225
August, 23 2016 7:00 pm**

In Attendance: Officers: Chair: Nat Coughlin, Secretary: Katherine Brown, **Trustees:** Mark Belanger, Mark Gustavson, Jennifer McCormick, Conall Ryan, Peter Zetlan, Ellen Oliver, Ben Scherz, Mason Mitchell Daniels, Jonnie Lyn Evans. **Director:** Andy Willemsen

Call to Order: 7:05

Public Comment: None

Announcements/Discussion: Andy Willemsen commented on previous minutes and need for an edit on page 2. It reads "Following the discussion of Andy Willemsen's review, Nat raised the question of a bonus for Nat. This will now read "a bonus for Andy".

Acceptance of Previous Minutes:

Vote: Nat Coughlin called for a Motion "To Accept Minutes of June, 14th" Motion by Mark Belanger, 2nd Peter Zetlan. Board vote to accept was unanimous.

Finance Committee Update:

Mark Belanger stated there had not been a meeting yet but meetings will be scheduled for the Tuesdays before the BOT meetings at 6pm. The first agenda item will be closing out the current year.

Development Committee Update:

Jennifer McCormick stated that the initial meeting was at 6pm on the 23rd and the Committee welcomed Ellen Oliver. Last year \$110,000.00 was collected and this is on target with the fundraising goal. The committee is currently preparing for the Newburyport Chamber of Commerce mixer on September 13th. The first Major Donor Event will be on Thursday, October 10th.

Accountability Committee Update:

Conall Ryan stated that the committee is actively recruiting new members and will have a regular meeting time of the first Monday of each month.

Discussion:

Nat and Andy gave the group an update on the Middle School Project; Andy has toured the building with an architect and the Design Review Board will make the final decision. Andy

stated that RVCS plans on a budget of \$350,000.00 and will be approaching institutions in town for additional support.

Nat reminded all board members to complete ESE forms.

Nat also told us of his meeting with Dave H from the school board committee. He stated that while Dave is not a fan of Charter he did post an article about Montessori education and how it can be integrated into public education.

This prompted a discussion relating to the upcoming ballot question and what RVCS BOT's approach should be in regards to communicating with various School Board members. Andy offered to send the Board of Trustees "talking points" on how to address criticism to the ballot question.

Staffing updates-

Andy Gabriel will be moving to a new school district and Laura Hunt will be picking up his place on the Literacy Team.

Director's Report/Goals: Andy Willemssen

Andy stated that these are a continuation of what has been presented in the past.

Vote: Nat Coughlin called for a Motion "To Approve the Director's Goals "

_Motion by Mark Gustavson, 2nd Mark Belanger. Board vote to accept was unanimous.

Jonnie Lyn asked the Board of Trustees to get involved with River Valley Charter School social media.

Nat Coughlin called for a Motion "To Adjourn the Meeting"

Motion by Conall Ryan, 2nd Mark Belanger. Board vote to accept was unanimous.

Adjourned 8:30