

**River Valley Charter School
Board of Directors Meeting
Meeting # 236
September 19, 2017 7:00 pm**

In Attendance: Officers: Chair: Mark Belanger, Vice Chair: John Siegfried, Treasurer: Mason Mitchell-Daniels **Trustees:** Peter Zetlan, Jennifer McCormack, Ben Scherz,, Kimberley Klibansky, Josh Porter, Nat Coughlin, Pam Brockmeier Armstrong, Alfred Link, Amber Hewitt, Jennifer McCormick, Nina Keery
Director: Andy Willemsen

Call to Order: 7:04

Public Comment: None

Chair Comment: The Foundation will have a rotating board member- Trustee to visit each Board of Trustees meeting, probably starting next month (October), to establish improved connection between the Foundation and the Board of Trustees.

Montessori Minute with Karen Popkin (E1) :

Karen presented on raising Blandings turtle. Native/threatened. Regional partnership. Multidiscipline learning with STEM core. Actual data for Mass Wildlife. Funded by outside grants (Parker River Clean River Association).

Acceptance of Previous Minutes:

Vote: Mark Belanger called for a Motion "To Accept Previous Minutes

Motion by Nat Coughlin, 2nd Pamela Brockmeier Armstrong. Board vote to accept was unanimous.

Work group introductions

Human Resources Group- Discussed work group tasks. Discussed executive session/open meeting law implications.

Committee On Trustees- John Siegfried will meet with members to coordinate ideas on reconstituting Committee On Trustees as a working group. Will be a work group as determining path forward, then determine if will re-incorporate as a full committee.

Discussed Board communication- Board will try to organize a Board letter for Happenings to improve awareness in community, better outreach to community. October, December, February, April are proposed dates.

Committee Updates-

Finance- Mason Mitchell-Daniels presentation- Committee had introduction meeting, discussed mortgage investigation planning and cash reserve. A committee report was provided.

Accountability- Ben Scherz handed out a copy of minutes for review, discussed calendar and goals for committee.

Nina Keery brought up question about tracking alumni- student performance, strengths/weaknesses. Some discussion about how it could be done, changing state guidelines might make more info available. Interest in improved alumni networks. Discussed how volunteer load might be put to work to get better coverage/data.

Development- First meeting will be October 11th. Development committee and Parents Alliance will meet on the same night. Committee is growing and the Parents Alliance is active and off to a good event start.

\$133K raised last year, \$73K dedicated to the middle school.
Currently have \$20K in hand, \$18K restricted for 2017/2018.

Director Report:

Enrollment- discussed whether years with higher turnover is a concern, or healthy turnover. Externalities like changing private school enrollment to 6th grade may influence. Alfred discussed whether follow up interviews or analysis of some historic data could shed light on if this is an issue of concern. A significant number of turnover actually have siblings who stay at RVCS.

Concussion Policy-

Vote: Mark Belanger called for a Motion “To Approve Revised Concussion Policy as Presented to the Board with the Board Packet.”

Motion by Nat Coughlin, 2nd Alfred Link. Board vote to accept was unanimous.

Director’s Goals-

Vote: Mark Belanger called for a Motion “To Approve Revised Director’s Goals as Presented to the Board with the Board Packet.”

Motion by Mason Mitchell-Daniels, 2nd John Siegfried. Board vote to accept was unanimous.

HVAC unit replacement-

Vote: Mark Belanger called for a Motion “To Approve Spending \$11,000 from the Previously Authorized 2017/2018 School Budget for Capital Improvement on HVAC Unit Replacement.”

Motion by Nat Coughlin, 2nd Alfred Link. Board vote to accept was unanimous.

Solar Array- Board of trustees will get to vote, probably in October, after the Foundation reviews/approves. Foundation is on point in negotiating terms and insurance.

Upcoming Calendar dates:

September 27- Parent Social at Brewery

September 30- Music Festival

October 4- Accountability Committee

October 10 Audit

October 11 Development Committee & Parent’s Alliance

October 17 Board of Trustees Meeting

Vote: Mark Belanger called for a Motion "To Adjourn"

Motion by Ben Scherz, 2nd Pete Zetlan. Board vote to accept was unanimous.

Adjourn- 8:37