

**River Valley Charter School
Executive Committee Meeting
Meeting # 231
March 20, 2017 7:00 pm**

In Attendance: Officers: Chair: Nat Coughlin, Vice Chair: John Siegfried, Treasurer: Mark Belanger, Secretary: Katherine Brown **Director:** Andy Willemsen

Call to Order: 7:02

**Acceptance of Previous Minutes:
Public Comment: None**

Montessori Minute: None

March 30 Middle School Unveiling Event

Vote: Mark Belanger called for a Motion "To Allow Alcohol to be Served at the Middle School Unveiling Event

Motion by Mark Belanger, 2nd John Siegfried. Executive Committee vote to accept was unanimous.

Middle School Project

Vote: Katherine Brown called for a Motion To Approve up to \$25,000 ,in Expense from Cash Reserves, for the Science Lab, Faculty Room, Kids School Kitchen and Middle School Carpeting.

2nd John Siegfried. Executive Committee vote to accept was unanimous.

Director's Report: Andy Willemsen

Crosswalk Safety-

Andy reported there was a 11/0 vote to approve the high speed flashers for the crossing on Low Street. An agreement needs to be drafted to state that the high speed flashing lights will be a gift from RVCS to the City of Newburyport.

Retreat-

Andy Willemsen raised the question of when to schedule the annual Board Retreat. John Siegfried will ask Josh to assist in creating a survey for the date. The Executive Committee discussed adding the new Board members orientation to the beginning of the retreat schedule. What is the agenda? The shift in leadership will be a focus. If the agenda is limited, the Board could plan the Retreat for an evening. Potential dates for an evening event would be: Tuesday, May 30 and Thursday, June 1.

Calendar-

The Executive Committee reviewed the two letters from parents stating concerns in regard to the number of Personal Development/Early Release days and the impact they have on a fluid school week. (view in Board packet and Google Docs)

Andy Willemsen stated we do not need to align our half days with district half days. We currently have 5 half day development days scheduled. This does not include conference days. Andy Willemsen will talk about moving the February half day to the 16th while at the Staff Meeting on March 21.

Vote: Mark Belanger called for a Motion To Approve the 2017/2018 Calendar with the exception that the February half day may be rescheduled to Feb 16 from Feb 1.

2nd John Siegfried. Executive Committee vote to accept was unanimous.

The Executive Committee discussed the potential of having the first Parent Teacher meetings of the school year in the evening.

Mark Belanger raised the fact that his wife has applied to RVCS and that he is concerned about a potential conflict of interest. He is asking for recusal in regard to any time he would need to review Andy Willemsen's performance or any discussion related to teacher compensation.

Nat Coughlin spoke to conflict of interest and how it might apply in this situation. He asked if one could serve his/her own financial benefit/ teacher compensation without conflict of interest?

Andy Willemsen requested that Mark Belanger call the State Ethics Committee and ask for their recommendation so everything would be on record. John Siegfried asked if there would be an additional party we could contact. Mark Belanger stated he would contact the State Ethics Committee as suggested.

Adjourned- 8:21

Motion Mark Belanger 2nd Nat Coughlin. Executive Committee vote to accept was unanimous.