

**River Valley Charter  
School Board of  
Directors Meeting  
Meeting # 267 May 12,  
2020 5:00 pm**

In accordance with the Executive Order applying to MA Open Meeting Law, this meeting will be held virtually on Zoom <https://zoom.us/j/309379100> at 5:00 p.m.

Meeting was called to order at  
5:05

*In attendance:*

Pam Armstrong  
Mark Belanger  
Mark Bishop  
Nancy Durkee Ali  
Fields Amber  
Hewett Alfred Link  
Catherine Martin  
Jennifer  
McCormack  
Karina Moltz Nina  
Keery Erin Seaton

Jonnie Lyn  
Evans

**Members of the public:** Jen Fisher, Dan Bouchard, Deb McCrevan, Katie Nye, Liz Fabel, Su- san Martinson, Rebecca Hamel, Lydia Pollard

**RVCS Revelation:** Ali Fields shared information about E2 projects that students have been do- ing.

**Public Comment:**

none

**Vote: motion to approve May**

## **minutes**

*Motion:* Ali Fields

2nd: Mark

Belanger

*Vote* Yes: everyone in

attendance No: Abstain

## **Director's Report (see report)**

### **highlights:**

- The video made by Parent's Association was lovely and very appreciated
- Discussion of recent break- in at RVCS. Thanks goes to Dan and Deb for their support and work in getting things back on track. Insurance company is requiring us to install cameras as a result of the break-in. Cameras for the school – Foundation owns the build- ing, so installing a camera doesn't require a board vote. JLE and Dan will draft a policy about use of cameras and footage.
- JLE is working with a reentry team at different options for the school to prep for reentry. Two parents have offered to help. Coordination team (special ed teachers, specialists, etc) will be included as needed.
- Has there been guidance/connections with Newburyport schools about decisions for reentry? GLE said that no communication has been happening.
- Question was raised about children who live with immune conditions or immunocom- promised relatives – JLE is aware of that idea and will work w Kimberley.

## **Calendar shared for approval**

Discussion: Comparison of Nbpt and other sending districts – Dan made a spreadsheet comparing start and end days, and number of vacations. JLE explained the half days and rationale for when they are planned (for instance, half day after Grandfriends Day, day off before Thanksgiving). Questions were raised about how rotating days or staggered schedules might impact calendar. No guidance from DESE yet. JLE goes to meetings with the Commissioner every week. Question was raised about the impact of a split schedule on staff – how will they manage the exhaustion of switching from one

schedule to another all the time? So many unknowns, hard to answer right now. Federal stimulus grant from CARES act would be well used to fund faculty to do planning for reentry. JLE wonders if we need to keep the money for building modifications like faucets, etc. Coordinating team doesn't feel like half days are as effective for PD as full days

**Motion:** to approve the draft calendar presented by JLE

Motion: Mark  
Belanger 2<sup>nd</sup>:Amber  
Hewett

*Vote* Yes: all in  
attendance No

Abstain

### **Accountability Committee**

- last meeting was short and not well attended, so decision was made to push items of dis- cussion to the next month. Always looking for new recruits.

### **Development Committee:**

- Alexandra McLoughlin will chair Development Committee next year
- Updated numbers in attached documents - \$133,000 raised so far

### **Committee on Trustees**

- James DeMaio sent financial disclosure forms to all BOT members. Board members need to complete the document. Even if leaving the board.
- Director Evaluation: aim was for a 360 degree review, so all stakeholders can participate and give feedback. This is very hard in a time of crisis, when the job of Director looks en- tirely different than it has before. Everyone's capacity is limited, so asking for feedback isn't always a good use of time. Going to do a scaled back version of the Director's Eval. Wants to give everyone opportunities about how

they're feeling about leadership during the crisis and also before the crisis, but limited questions. Survey is for parents and committee chairs of the Board.

**Vote: to approve Anna Wetmore's and Albert Ting's appointments to the 2020-2021 Board of Trustees.**

Motion: **Mark**  
**Belanger 2nd: Nina**  
**Keery**

**Discussion:** Anna and Albert met with Amber and she spoke to the Board about their commitment to RVCS and their interest in joining the Board. A question was raised about their interest in committees. They didn't specify to Amber, but are likely to go where there is need. Liz Fabel informs Board that the Foundation is also looking for new members.

**Vote:** Yes: all except for Ali Fields No: Abstain:  
Ali Fields lost internet connection during vote

**Finance Committee:** see attached reports

- Mark Bishop described the cash balance and cash reserve funds
- Report includes a detailed breakdown of things like tuition, facilities payments, etc.
- If the state passes a 1/12<sup>th</sup> budget, they will have to communicate w charter schools accordingly
- Question raised about teacher employment agreements. Supposed to go out by May 22. JLE speaking w attorney – employment agreements won't be finalized but school will communicate with teachers their intentions about employment. Not able to do a line item yet for salaries.
- June 9<sup>th</sup>, 6 pm is next Finance Cmte meeting.

**Vote: to go into Executive Session to talk about Director compensation**

Made by: Mark  
Belanger 2<sup>nd</sup>: Mark  
Bishop

*Vote* Yes: all in  
attendance  
No

Abstai

n

**6:32 pm Board goes into Executive  
Session**

**Vote: Motion to exit Executive  
Session** Made by: Mark Belanger  
2nd: Alfred Link

Motion to adjourn  
meeting Made by: Mark  
Belanger 2<sup>nd</sup>: Nina  
Keery

*Vote*: Yes: all in  
attendance No:  
Abstain:

**7:20 pm Board  
adjourns**