

**River Valley Charter School
Board of Directors Meeting
Meeting # 226
September 13, 2016 7:30 pm**

In Attendance:

Officers: Chair: Nat Coughlin, Vice Chair: John Siegfried, Treasurer: Mark Belanger, Secretary: Katherine Brown **Trustees:** Mark Gustavson, Jennifer McCormick, Mason Mitchell-Daniels, Ellen Oliver, Joshua Porter, Conall Ryan, Ben Scherz, Jane Noyes.

Director: Andy Willemsen

Call to Order: 7:32

Public Comment: None

Announcements/Discussion: None

Acceptance of Previous Minutes:

Vote: Nat Coughlin called for a Motion “To Accept Minutes of August,16th”
Motion by Mark Belanger, 2nd John Siegfried. Board vote to accept was unanimous.

Finance Committee Update:

Mark Belanger stated that the committee’s goal will be to understand the budget for the year. Mark reminded the Board of the upcoming Audit Meeting at River Valley Charter School on October 12 at 7pm.

Development Committee Update:

Jennifer McCormick reported that the Chamber Mixer event was successful with more than 20 people attending. Jane Noyes gave a report of the school tours. The Board was reminded of the first Major Donor Event on October 13 at 6:30 pm.

Accountability Committee Update:

Conall stated that the committee reviewed the annual goals and created a meeting schedule for the year. The committee discussed the potential of bringing Jonnie Lyn Evans in to discuss compliance and is leaning towards have her present in front of entire Board. John Siegfried remarked on the impressive quality of the assessments from the spring.

Middle School Update

Four firms have responded to the ad placed by the River Valley Charter School. Nat will travel to Boston tomorrow to sit with a committee from one of the firms. River Valley Charter School will continue to look for financial support from local businesses.

Director's Report/Goals: Andy Willemssen

November Ballot Question #2

Andy Willemssen reported that he and Superintendent Gary Reese will meet for a discussion on education in general sometime after the election. This meeting/discussion will be aired on Public Access television.

Andy Willemssen will address the topic of Ballot Question #2 in "Happenings" tomorrow.

Allergy Policy Review

Andy Willemssen stated that he will continue to review the Allergy Policy with Jonathan March and Kimberly Putney taking into consideration age appropriate responsibility and accepting vulnerability. A revision of the current policy will be presented to the Board for review and discussion.

Technology Policy

Discussion of sharing the school's position on technology with River valley Charter School families. Joshua Porter suggested the idea of "creating versus consuming" with technology.

Discussion:

Nat Coughlin stated that he met with the Parents Alliance leadership and they would like to be under the umbrella of the Board of Trustees. The Board then discussed what it would mean if the Parents Alliance were to join. The Board discussed the potential of forming a separate committee for the Parents Alliance which would need to be led by a current Board Member.

Jennifer McCormick stated that the Parents Alliance has agreed not to fundraise for one year. Nat Coughlin followed with the Parents Alliance's comment that if on the Board, they would not need to fundraise and could therefore collaborate more and share their event agenda with more ease. Nat Coughlin stated that he thinks the Board of Trustees and Parents Alliance may be able to align and work together. Nat Coughlin asked the Board to consider and discuss the idea of the Parents Alliance joining the Board of Trustees.

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

Motion by Conall Ryan, 2nd Ben Scherz. Board vote to accept was unanimous.

Adjourned 8:45