

River Grove Elementary
Board of Directors Meeting
Thursday, August 15, 2024 5:30 PM - 7:00 PM
Bayport Library - Prairie Room

MINUTES

- 1.0 Call to Order
 - Board members attending - Eric Olsen, Sarah Godsave, Breena Slivik, Angie Hong, Lisa Dochniak. Madison Boesel participated virtually. Also in attendance - Drew Goodson and Jessica Hansen.
- 2.0 Approve Agenda
- 3.0 Approve Minutes June 2024
 - The June minutes were updated to note that Breena Slivik was not in attendance.
 - Godsave motioned to approve the minutes as amended. Olsen seconded. All in favor. Minutes approved.
- 4.0 Community Comment
 - PTO Report:
 - April Martell sent a PTO report. All positions in the PTO are currently filled. Upcoming activities include:
 - Selling stepping stones for the school (requesting approval)
 - Providing staff with long-sleeved shirts. They will also be opening the logo apparel store for families, staff and students.
 - Sept. 28: Acapulco give back night
 - Oct. 22: Lift Bridge Brewery Fundraiser
 - Nov. 6 Chipotle night
 - January: Applebee's flapjack fundraiser
 - February: Read-a-thon
 - Additional events to be planned monthly throughout the spring
 - Goodson recently met with the PTO and discussed possible volunteer roles for the coming year. Hansen noted that school volunteers need to go through training and background checks.
 - River Grove Community Updates - none
 - Citizen Comments - none
- 5.0 Authorizer Comments - no one from the MN Guild was in attendance. Olsen spoke with Jim Zacchini recently and provide updates for the coming school year.
- 6.0 Reports and Discussion
 - Financial Reports: Olsen reviewed highlights from the May financial report. River Grove ended the school year with a \$100k budget deficit.
 - Slivik motions to approve May 2024 Financial Report. Godsave seconded. All in favor. Motion approved.
 - Director's Report
 - River Grove currently has 124 students enrolled for the coming year. Class sizes range from 18 to 24 students. Newly hired teachers for 3rd and 4th Grade and Intervention/Sped. Currently looking to hire a new PE teacher and an additional SpEd teacher. The current teaching team includes:
 - Kindergarten = Madison Boesel
 - 1st grade = Aice Williams
 - 2nd grade = Meghan Ondracek

- 3rd grade = Kathryn Magnuson
- 4th Grade- Aaron Sparby
- 5th grade - Adam Johnson
- Intervention/SpEd. - Katelin Carlson, Shelly Vrambout, and Shelly Orr
- Special programming will include a continued partnership with the Zephyr and a new, enhanced library program.
- There will be a kindergarten social event on Aug. 19 at the Surf Yogurt Shop in Marine. Welcome conferences will be Aug. 26 and 27. Back to School Night on Aug. 28, 4-6pm.
- Other conversation and updates:
 - Dochniak asked what percentage of our current student population will be receiving SpEd services. (About 20%)
 - Goodson mentioned that there is now a security gate at the school entrance and new security features. There will be new procedures for parents coming to the forest campus during the day.
 - Staff will be at the school next week for in-service. Edvisions will help guide strategic planning.
 - River Grove will be launching a new website with help from a parent volunteer.
 - Sandy will be back in the kitchen and River Grove will be serving hot food this year.
- Annual Designations: Goodson read through the annual designations.
 - Motion to approve the annual designations as presented. Seconded by Slivik. All in favor. Motion approved.
- Policy Updates
 - School Bus Use Policy: Minnesota Department of Education suggested that the board review if a policy regarding use of school buses for non-school activities is necessary. In the past, school buses have been used outside of school hours for non-school activities, with financial compensation given to the school in the form of a donation. Goodson estimates this has occurred on only a few occasions in the school's 6 year history of leasing its own buses. The board declined to establish a policy at this time but agreed to discuss and consider establishing a policy in the future if a need arises.
 - Wellness Plan Update (must complete every 36 months): The board will need to conduct a review and approve a new wellness plan by the end of the year. Goodson will bring forward a work plan and template at the September board meeting. Dochniak volunteered to assist in developing this plan.
- Board Member Reports
 - Curriculum Committee:
 - Staff is excited about developing a school-wide curriculum plan. There will be a teacher in-service next week. Hansen has developed an outline for field trips to ensure they are purposeful and help to meet state standards. Edvisions will be meeting with staff next week as well.
 - Development Committee: Godsave, Goodson and Hansen met in July and discussed an annual fund and online donations platform.

*Board member Dochniak left the meeting early at 7:21pm.

- Director Evaluation Summary:

- Olsen and Hong met with Goodson prior to today's meeting to share feedback from the Director's evaluation. The board expressed their sincere appreciation to Goodson and Hansen for leading River Grove through such a difficult year last year.

7.0 Old Business

- No Old Business

8.0 New Business

- Finalize board schedule through the end of the 2024 calendar year. Regular board meetings will be held on the second Thursday of each month at 5:30pm at the school.
- Vacant Board Seat: There is currently a board vacancy that needs to be filled with either a teacher or community member.

9.0 Next Board of Directors Meeting: Thursday, Sept. 12, 5:30pm at the school.

10.0 The meeting was adjourned at 7:50pm.