

Board of Trustees, Ridge and Valley Charter School  
Regular Meeting Minutes

The Meeting of the Board of Trustees of Ridge and Valley Charter School was held on April 17, 2008 at 1234 State Route 94, Blirstown, NJ 07825. The meeting was called to order at 6:15 pm by Dave McNulty, Facilitator. The Trustees operate on a consensus basis in all matters. We choose to dispense with Robert's Rules of Order and Conventional Parliamentary Procedure. Our intention is to affirm the mission of the school. Ridge and Valley Charter School offers an integrated, experiential course of study in the context of the universe and its interrelationships. Adequate notice of this meeting had been made in accordance with the provisions set forth in the Open Public Meetings Act, Chapter 231, Laws of 1975 in the New Jersey Herald, the County superintendent's office and with the County Administrator.

Roll Call	present	absent
Voting Members		
Kerry Barnett	X	
Donna Best	X	
Lisa Kelly	X	
Andy Marancik	X	
Dave McNulty	X	
Evonn Reiersen	X	
Pati Uzar	X	
Non-voting members:		
David Wyllie, Academic Coordinator	X	
Nanci Dvorsky, Administrative Coordinator	X	
Traci Pannullo, Curriculum Coordinator	X	
Facilitator: Dave McNulty		
Guardian: Evonn Reiersen		
Recorder: Nanci Dvorsky		

Also in attendance: Barbara Cochrane, Sylvia Ramos, Dave Paulson, Cheryl Paulson, Tom Kelliher, Kasey Errico, Cathy Conner, Brad White, Lisa Masi, and Gina Barkovitch.

**Trustee Circle Opening:** convened 6:15pm

**Notices:** None

**Public Participation:** Parent inquiry into statements made by Academic Coordinator. There was a question as to whether the parents can know the details of the reviews for the coordinators. A parent concern was brought regarding a bullying situation involving their son. Kasey, Cathy, Andy and Evonn offered to be involved in a review of the current RVCS Bullying and Harassment policy and to gather a community meeting regarding our school culture.

**Approval of Minutes:** Approval of March 20, 2008 minutes with changes. Donna Best abstained.

**Correspondence:** The correspondence of the Solar Hot Water Heater Workshop proposed by Bill Gold was presented.

Dave McNulty read the letter offered by Kathyann Natkie in reference to her stepping out of the Trustee Circle in her official capacity but which detailed her desire to be available to the school community.

**Business Administrator's Report:** Charlie Knopf recommended that the school change its current Oxford Insurance medical plan. **Resolution 04.17.08.g** To approve changing the medical insurance benefits to Horizon Direct Access as per the attached analysis. Charlie reported that the refinancing of the RVCS property loans were out to public bid. He also reported that good news had been received regarding the first stage of review for the Dissemination Grant application.

**Resolution 04.17.2008.d** To approve the Board Secretary and Treasurers Reports for April 2008 and certifications.

**Resolution 04.17.08.f** To approve the renewal of the line of credit with Lakeland Bank in the amount of \$60,000.00.

**Administrative Coordinator's Report:** Nanci Dvorsky presented the 2008-2009 school year calendar. Approved unanimously with changes.

**Resolution 04.17.08.a** To approve payment of bills in the amount of \$96,358.91 which includes payroll. Approved unanimously. **Resolution 04.17.08.b** To approve the 2008-2009 Professional Development Plan.

**Resolution 04.17.08.e** Be it resolved that the RVCS trustees accept Kathyann Natkie's resignation from the Board and thank her for many years of exceptional service to the school, students and the entire community. We look forward to continued cooperation and communication with Kathyann to further enhance the learning community at Ridge and Valley. Approved with regret.

A facility update was given. Nanci reported that Peer Spirit asked for permission to include its work with RVCS in its upcoming book and it was agreed by all that they could do this. Individual interviews would have to be approved by the participant.

There was a request for funding of the 8<sup>th</sup> grade whitewater rafting trip on Monday May 12<sup>th</sup> and it was agreed that the fee of \$539.40 would be covered by RVCS in full.

**Academic Coordinator's Report:** No report was submitted.

**Curriculum Coordinator's Report:** Traci Pannullo reported that Paul Morgan, professor at West Chester University, PA , will be coming to RVCS on April 25<sup>th</sup> for a visit prior to the May 21<sup>st</sup> Guide collaborative training on infusing Earth Literacy into the curriculum. She gave an elaborated description of the Dissemination Grant which includes developing the sustainability standards to be in harmony with the NJCCCS and said the Guides were looking forward to the prospect of collaboration with Unity Charter School students and staff. Traci reported that she had begun work on the second phase of the database program and she also gave a report on the progress of the developing curriculum document she has been working on.

Traci gave a report on the Math Curriculum community meetings saying the math audit and community meetings had been completed and the math committee meeting schedule developed. The committee is hoping to have a recommendation by the May public Trustee meeting.

Executive Session to discuss personnel matters 8:35pm.

Return to public session at 8:50pm.

**Resolution 04.17.08.c To approve offering contracts for the 2008-2009 school year to the following Guides:**

<b>Cathy Conner</b>	<b>\$42,782.00 plus a signing bonus of \$1,252.00</b>
<b>Nanci Dvorsky</b>	<b>\$53,300.00</b>
<b>Katharine Errico</b>	<b>\$35,106.00 plus a signing bonus of \$1,028.00</b>
<b>Dena Feldman</b>	<b>\$43,380.00 plus a signing bonus of \$1,270.00</b>
<b>Michael Florio</b>	<b>\$37,332.00 plus a signing bonus of \$1,093.00</b>
<b>Sundae Greame</b>	<b>\$36,159.00 plus a signing bonus of \$1,058.00</b>
<b>Lisa Masi</b>	<b>\$42,509.00 plus a signing bonus of \$1,244.00</b>
<b>Rowena McNulty</b>	<b>\$67,568.00 plus a signing bonus of \$1,978.00</b>
<b>Kristin Noel</b>	<b>\$36,159.00 plus a signing bonus of \$1,058.00</b>
<b>Donna Usinowicz</b>	<b>\$36,565.00 plus a signing bonus of \$1,070.00</b>

**Unanimously approved.**

**Committee Reports:**

Communication Committee: Lisa Kelly reported that the RVCS participation at the Stanhope House green event was a great success as was the participation at the Centenary College Earth Day event. The next meeting of the committee will take place Tuesday April 22<sup>nd</sup> at 6:00pm.

Hiring Committee: The committee will be meeting every Tuesday afternoon from 4:30pm to 7:00pm.

Meeting Adjourned 10:45pm

Nanci Dvorsky, Board Secretary