

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 May 21, 2009 at 1234 State Route 94, Blairstown, NJ 07825. The meeting was called to order at 6:25 pm by David 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	
Tom Kelleher	X	
Andy Marancik	X	
Dave McNulty	X	
Dave Paulson	X	
Pati Uzar	X	
Non-voting members:		
Nanci Dvorsky, Administrative Coordinator	X	
Lisa Masi, Integration Guide	X	
Rowena McNulty, Differentiated Learning Coord.	X	
Traci Pannullo, Curriculum Coordinator	X	
Charles Knopf, School Business Admin.	X	

Facilitator: Dave McNulty Guardian: Tom Kelleher Recorder: Nanci Dvorsky
Also in attendance: Melissa Browns, Sylvia Ramos, Kath Cameron, Barbara Cochrane, Suzie Wright, Donna Price, Dena Pheonix, Michael Tudor, Eric Freedman.

Trustee Circle Opening: convened 6:25

Notices: None

Public Participation: Donna Price read a letter about her request to the Trustees regarding an email address of a family at the school . Eric Freedman read a letter regarding the same email address. Barbara Cochrane recommended that we try to communicate with each other through the mission of the school. Michael Tudor congratulated the school and asked that the children be in the center of our work.

Correspondence: None

Approval of Minutes: Approval of April 23, 2009 and May 7, 2009 minutes with corrections.

Business Administrator: Resolution 5.21.09.k The Board approves the following transfers: \$300 from Line 47 Supplies to Line 48 Textbooks, \$1,000 from Line 54 Benefits to Line 55 Prof/Tech, \$500 from Line 69 Rent to Line 71 Supplies, \$100 from Line 69 Rent to Line 66 Support Salaries. Approved unanimously. **Resolution 05.21.09.l** To approve the application for the American Reinvestment and Recovery Act – Individuals with Disabilities Education Act Allocation of \$21,851.00 for the 2009-2010 school year and to apply for half of it now. Approved unanimously. **Resolution 05.21.09.n** The Board approves the Board Secretary and Treasurers Reports for March 2009 and certifies that no major account or fund has been over expended and to confirm that sufficient funds are available to meet the schools financial obligations for the remainder of the year. Approved unanimously.

Administrative Coordinator: Resolution 05.21.09.a To approve payment of bills in the amount of \$112,696.30 which includes payroll. Approved unanimously. **Resolution 05.21.09.b** To approve joining the NJSBA Insurance Group effective 5.21.09. Approved unanimously. **Resolution 05.21.09.c** To approve payment of audit fees for the 2008-2009 school year not to exceed \$9,350.00 to Cullari Gallo Soojian Carrabba Certified Public Accountants with audit to begin approximately September 22, 2009. Approved unanimously. **Resolution 05.21.09.g** To approve Cooper Home Systems quote of \$2,550.00 to install a public service announcement system in the classrooms and to approve Lock and Key World quote of \$2,920 to install new classroom security door locks and levers. Approved unanimously. **Resolution 05.21.09.i** To approve Robert Hart as Treasurer of School Monies for the 2009-2010 school year at a monthly rate of \$225.00. Approved unanimously. **Resolution 05.21.09.m** To approve Charles Knopf as the School Business Administrator for the 2009-2010 school year at a salary of \$25,750.00. Approved unanimously.

Leadership Team Update:

Curriculum Coordinator Report: Traci Pannullo reported that Unity Charter School staff and RVCS Guides met for collaboration and peer review of the grant work they have been working on together. All the Unity Charter School students will be at RVCS on May 29th for a culminating team experience. Traci reported that the RVCS student experience of collaborating with Unity students has been a good one. Traci brought a

request from Guide Kasey Errico for a Trustee to take her place on a live on air interview on gooddirtradio.com. The Trustees feel Kasey would be a great person to represent the school and Guide Dena Pheonix suggested that perhaps Kasey could partner with an RVCS student for the interview. **Integration Guide Report:** Lisa Masi reported she has been working on next year structures, collaboration with Guides, Guide support and resources. She reported that the Junior Solar Sprints were a great success again this year with RVCS teams taking three medals. The Trustees and staff thank Cathy Conner for facilitating the student groups. Lisa also reported that the RVCS trip to Millbrook Village was a great time for students and staff. **Differentiated Coordinator Report:** Rowena McNulty reported that the three weeks and makeup sessions for the NJASK testing was concluded. Two student groups took trips to the Domestic Abuse Center to do service work. The Lehigh River White Water Rafting 8th grade graduation trip is scheduled for June 1, 2009. She has been working on the Project Wet Water Festival Grant, schedules for next year, and peer critique evaluations for the leadership team.

Committee Reports:

Hiring Committee: The committee has been reviewing resumes and interviewing candidates.

Finance Committee: No report.

Library Committee: No report.

K-12 Committee: No report.

Peace Core Committee: The RVCS policy 4111.2 prohibiting harassment, bullying, and intimidation was reviewed by Board Attorney William Gold and the recommendations are currently being integrated into the policy for a first reading of the revision.

Communication Committee: The website is almost to the testing/review stage. An advertisement for the Open House on May 27th and Little Ridge and Valley Summer Program has been placed in the New Jersey Herald.

Land Care Committee: Dave McNulty and Dave Paulson are working with Elyssa Serrilli on her Green Collar Futures pergola project.

Graduation Committee: Pati Uzar and Donna Best will be point for the June 9th graduation. RVCS is honored to have Ross Danis of the Geraldine R. Dodge Foundation as the guest speaker.

Yearbook Committee: Sylvia Ramos reported that the yearbook is on to the printer and will be available for students by the last week of school.

Dance Committee: Donna Best reported that the Spring Dance was a great success and raised approximately \$4,300 for the school.

Other Business: The RVCS 2009 Community Survey is available for families as is the Whole School Assembly report by request. The June Trustee reorganization meeting is the 18th and Kerry Barnett requests that each Trustee submit a statement of commitment by that date. The Whole School Assembly is scheduled for Monday June 1st at 6pm. Melissa Browns requested that the Trustees review the Charter language as it applies to actions of the Whole School Assembly and she suggests a possible amendment may be needed. The Little Ridge and Valley Summer Program deadline has been extended to June 16th. It was suggested that in the interest of making the Trustee meetings more efficient that public participation be directed to the formal public participation portion of the meeting in the early portion of the agenda unless a person of the public is asked to report on specific committee work.

Executive Session: 9:35pm regarding personnel and potential litigation.

Return to public session 9:45pm

Resolution 5.21.09. To approve the leadership team for the 2009-2010 school year with stipend amounts as follows: Nanci Dvorsky, Administrative Coordinator, no additional stipend, Rowena McNulty Differentiation Coordinator, \$7,210.00, Lisa Masi, Integration Guide, \$8,755.00, Traci Pannullo, Curriculum Coordinator, \$5,150.00, Susan Paynter, Supervisory services, up to \$5,000.00, Cathy Conner, Outdoor Experiential Ed and Field Trip Coordinator, \$1,545.00. Approved unanimously. **Resolution 05.21.09.e** To approve offering a contract to Megan Bubalis for the 2009-2010 school year as a certified classroom guide at a salary of \$35,500.00. Approved unanimously. **Resolution 05.21.09.f** To approve offering employment to Margaret Vetter for the 2009-2010 school year as a part time special education guide at a salary of \$21,900.00. Approved unanimously. **Resolution 05.21.09.h** To approve accepting a contract with Bradley White for the 2009-2010 school year at a salary of \$34,250.00 as a certified Guide. Approved unanimously. **Resolution 05.21.09.j** To approve advancing a student one additional grade level in the 2009-2010 school year based on recommendation by the Guide. Approved unanimously.

Meeting Adjourned 10:00pm

Nanci Dvorsky, Board Secretary