River Valley Charter School

Board Meeting

Published on June 15, 2026 at 6:51 PM EDT

Date and Time

Wednesday June 17, 2026 at 7:00 PM EDT

Location

Zoom

River Valley Charter School welcomes your participation at Board meetings. The purpose of a public meeting of the Board of Trustees ("Board") is to conduct the affairs of the organization in public. Your participation assures us of continuing community interest in our school and assists the Board in making the best decisions for our school. To assist you in the ease of speaking/participating in our meetings, guidelines are provided at the bottom of this agenda. All materials for all board and committee meetings, are available on our Board on track public portal found at rivervalleycharter.org.

Zoom link: https://us02web.zoom.us/j/8516508581?pwd=8roWrPp5aJXvEAFctC4bxo69QnaDfv.1

Agenda

		Purpose	Presenter	Time
I.	**Opening Items**			**7:00 PM**
	A. Record Attendance		Jonathan Nickerson	1 m
	B. Call the Meeting to Order		Tanya Murdy	

		Purpose	Presenter	Time
C.	Public Comment	Discuss	Tanya Murdy	15 m

- 3 minutes each
- 5 speakers

D.	Review Trustee Code of Conduct		Tanya Murdy	1 m

II. Approve Previous Board Minutes — 7:17 PM

A.	Approve Minutes	Approve Minutes	Tanya Murdy	1 m

Approve minutes for Board Meeting on April 29, 2026

B.	Approve Board Meeting Minutes	Approve Minutes	Tanya Murdy	1 m

Approve minutes for Board Meeting on June 9, 2026

C.	Approve Board Meeting Minutes	Approve Minutes	Tanya Murdy	5 m

Approve minutes for Board Meeting on June 2, 2026

D.	Approve Board Meeting Minutes	Approve Minutes	Tanya Murdy	5 m

Approve minutes for Special Board Meeting on May 27, 2026

E.	Approve Board Meeting Minutes	Approve Minutes	Tanya Murdy	5 m

Approve minutes for Board Meeting on May 20, 2026

F.	Approve Board Meeting Minutes	Approve Minutes	Tanya Murdy	1 m

Approve minutes for Special Board Meeting on April 9, 2026

G.	Approve Board Meeting Minutes	Approve Minutes	Tanya Murdy	1 m

Approve minutes for Special Meeting on March 12, 2026

H.	Approve Board Meeting Minutes	Approve Minutes	Tanya Murdy	1 m

Approve minutes for Emergency Board Meeting on May 17, 2026

		Purpose	Presenter	Time
I.	Approve Board Meeting Minutes	Approve Minutes	Tanya Murdy	1 m

Approve minutes for EMERGENCY MEETING on May 28, 2026

III. Consent Agenda — 7:38 PM

The Items Below form our consent agenda

A.	Accountability Committee	Approve Minutes	Tanya Murdy	1 m
B.	Development Committee	Approve Minutes	Tanya Murdy	1 m
C.	Executive Committee	Approve Minutes	Tanya Murdy	1 m

Approve minutes for Executive Committee Committee Meeting on May 6, 2026

D.	Committee on Trustees	Approve Minutes	Tanya Murdy	1 m

Approve minutes for Committee on Trustees Committee Meeting on June 4, 2026

E.	Finance Committee	Approve Minutes	Tanya Murdy	1 m
F.	Vote on Consent Agenda	Vote	Denise Herrera	5 m

Vote to Approve Consent Agenda

IV. Director's Update — 7:48 PM

A.	Director's Report	Discuss	Joey Gustafson	20 m

- Updates

V. Policy — 8:08 PM

- Attendance Policy
- Animal Policy

		Purpose	Presenter	Time
A.	Approve Policy	Vote	Tanya Murdy	5 m

Approve the following polices:

- Attendance Policy
- Animal Policy

Attendance:
The old policy was outdated- it did not have the accurate school hours, did not include PUP procedures, and did not include accountability for chronic absenteeism. We reviewed the attendance policy from NPS, then updated our old policy to account for all of the above points and added links directly to DESE.
Animals:
Animals in school are becoming more and more frequent without an understanding of the potential negative impacts on students and staff. This policy would halt the entrance of additional animals and establish a thoughtful approach to when and where we have animals in the building.

VI. Interim Executive Director Search — 8:13 PM

A.	Search Questions Overview	Discuss	Tanya Murdy	10 m

Questions for survey and focus groups

VII. Finance Committee — 8:23 PM

A.	Update	Discuss	Gary LeFave	5 m

1. Review of May budget vs actual results
2. Approval of $90k in stipends funded for 2025/2026
3. Review & approval of 2026/2027 budget
4. Approval of Daniel Dennis as auditor

Year in review

B.	FY 25-26 Budget Surplus Vote	Vote	Gary LeFave	5 m

1. Approval of $90k in stipends funded for 2025/2026

C.	Vote to Approve FY 26-27 Budget	Vote	Gary LeFave	5 m

- Review & approval of 2026/2027 budget

		Purpose	Presenter	Time
D.	Daniel Dennis	Vote	Gary LeFave	5 m

Approval of Daniel Dennis as auditor

VIII. Committee on Trustees — 8:43 PM

A.	Board Leadership: Vote for Slate of Officers for FY '26	Vote	Jonathan Nickerson	15 m

- Board Chairperson: Tanya Murdy, Derek Mitchell, Meg Connerton
- Vice Chairperson: Jonathan Nickerson, Derek Mitchell, Meg Connerton
- Treasurer: Gary LeFave
- Secretary/Clerk: Achala Godino

B.	Board Trustee Nominees	Vote	Jonathan Nickerson	20 m

Nominees:
Beth Friedman
Alex Tsonas
Tyler Chiasson
Alison Salerno
Meredith Makin
Farrell Boghos-Maryniak
Daniel Candelario

C.	Annual Board Assessment	Discuss	Jonathan Nickerson	5 m
D.	THANK YOU!!!!	Discuss	Jonathan Nickerson	5 m

With heartfelt gratitude, we would like to thank the following trustees for their years of dedicated service to RVCS. Their commitment, leadership, and stewardship have helped guide the school through growth, challenges, and opportunities, always keeping the best interests of our students and community at the center of their work.

- Albert Ting
- Denise Herrera
- Elizabeth Rankin
- Erin Bradley Irose

IX. Board of Trustee 2026-2027 Planning — 9:28 PM

		Purpose	Presenter	Time
A.	Planning	Discuss	Tanya Murdy	15 m

- Committee Selection
- Committee meeting dates
  - COT/Exec: Wednesdays
  - Development: Tuesdays
  - Finance: Monthly Zoom and Quarterly in person
  - Accountability:
- Discuss Board of Trustees meeting date: 4th Wednesday of the month.

X. Exectuive Committee **9:43 PM**

		Purpose	Presenter	Time
A.	DESE Complaint	FYI	Tanya Murdy	5 m

DESE complaint stating lack of board oversight in regard to PBE.

The Department has carefully reviewed your concerns. However, the alleged changes in
the PBE program do not affect the Charter School's ability to carry out its mission to "provide a rigorous academic program based on the Montessori philosophy and rooted
in the history, culture, and ecology of the Merrimack River Valley" and provide students
with the key design elements of the charter, which include "educational program based
on the Montessori philosophy; elements of the curriculum rooted in the history, culture, and ecology of the Merrimack River Valley; and critical thinking and problem solving." As
you have not alleged that the Charter School has failed to implement a material term of
its charter, you have not alleged a violation of M.G.L. c. 71 §89(w) or its implementing regulations under 603 CMR 1.00 that the Department has the authority to investigate. The Department appreciates your outreach on behalf of your student and all other students at the Charter School. To address your concerns, you may wish to consider contacting the Charter School Office at charterschools@mass.gov.As of the date of this letter, this complaint is closed, and the Department will not take
further action on this complaint.

		Purpose	Presenter	Time
B.	Year In Review	Discuss	Tanya Murdy	5 m

- Transitioned board leadership
- Transitioned executive director leadership
- External board audit: focus on systems and structures. More focus on managing through process and data.

XI.	**Accountability**			**9:53 PM**
A.	Year in Review	Discuss	Albert Ting	5 m
XII.	**Development**			**9:58 PM**
A.	Year in Review	Discuss	Elizabeth Rankin	5 m
XIII.	**Closing Items**			**10:03 PM**
A.	Board Meeting Survey https://app2.boardontrack.com/surveyForm/show/1163	FYI	Tanya Murdy	1 m
B.	Adjourn Meeting	Vote		

THE ORDER OF BUSINESS MAY BE CHANGED WITHOUT NOTICE Notice is hereby given that the order of consideration of matters on this agenda may be changed without prior notice.

REASONABLE LIMITATIONS MAY BE PLACED ON PUBLIC TESTIMONY The Board Chair reserves the right to impose reasonable time limits on public testimony to ensure that the agenda is completed.