



## River Valley Charter School

### Minutes

#### Board Meeting

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##### Date and Time

Wednesday June 11, 2025 at 7:00 PM

##### Location

River Valley Charter School Middle School Great Room

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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](http://rivervalleycharter.org).

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##### Trustees Present

A. Ting, C. Getz, C. Whitford (remote), D. Herrera, D. Mitchell, E. Bradley, E. Simone, J. Nickerson, M. Connerton, N. Durkee, P. Ganley, T. Murdy

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**Trustees Absent**

A. Godino, B. MacQuade, E. Rankin

**Trustees who arrived after the meeting opened**

C. Whitford, D. Mitchell

**Ex Officio Members Present**

K. Kuse

**Non Voting Members Present**

K. Kuse

**Guests Present**

A. Wetmore

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**I. Opening Items**

**A. Record Attendance**

D. Mitchell arrived at 7:06 PM.

C. Whitford arrived at 7:58 AM.

**B. Call the Meeting to Order**

D. Herrera called a meeting of the board of trustees of River Valley Charter School to order on Wednesday Jun 11, 2025 at 7:03 PM.

**C. Public Comment**

None.

**D. Review Trustee Code of Conduct**

DHerrerra pointed out that the code

**II. Approve Previous Board Minutes**

**A. Approve Minutes**

E. Bradley made a motion to approve the minutes from Special Board Meeting on 02-24-25.

C. Getz seconded the motion.

The board **VOTED** to approve the motion.

**Roll Call**

E. Simone Abstain  
A. Ting Aye  
D. Herrera Aye  
N. Durkee Aye  
E. Bradley Aye  
E. Rankin Absent  
C. Whitford Aye  
D. Mitchell Absent  
J. Nickerson Aye  
C. Getz Aye  
A. Godino Absent  
P. Ganley Aye  
T. Murdy Aye  
B. MacQuade Absent  
M. Connerton Aye

**B. Approve Board Meeting Minutes**

E. Bradley made a motion to approve the minutes from Board Meeting on 03-19-25.  
C. Getz seconded the motion.  
The board **VOTED** to approve the motion.

**Roll Call**

D. Mitchell Absent  
C. Getz Aye  
E. Simone Aye  
M. Connerton Abstain  
E. Bradley Aye  
E. Rankin Absent  
A. Godino Absent  
B. MacQuade Absent  
T. Murdy Aye  
C. Whitford Aye  
A. Ting Aye  
P. Ganley Aye  
N. Durkee Aye  
J. Nickerson Aye  
D. Herrera Aye

**C. Approve Board Meeting Minutes**

T. Murdy made a motion to approve the minutes from Board Meeting on 05-21-25.  
C. Getz seconded the motion.  
The board **VOTED** to approve the motion.

**Roll Call**

E. Rankin Absent

**Roll Call**

J. Nickerson	Aye
E. Bradley	Abstain
A. Ting	Aye
A. Godino	Absent
D. Mitchell	Aye
T. Murdy	Aye
B. MacQuade	Absent
N. Durkee	Abstain
C. Whitford	Abstain
C. Getz	Aye
E. Simone	Aye
P. Ganley	Abstain
D. Herrera	Abstain
M. Connerton	Abstain

**III. Consent Agenda**

**A. Accountability Committee**

**B. Development Committee**

**C. Executive Committee**

**D. Committee on Trustees**

**E. Finance Committee**

**F. Vote on Consent Agenda**

C. Getz made a motion to Approve consent agenda.  
P. Ganley seconded the motion.  
The board **VOTED** to approve the motion.

**Roll Call**

C. Whitford	Aye
A. Godino	Absent
T. Murdy	Aye
D. Herrera	Aye
E. Rankin	Absent
J. Nickerson	Aye
M. Connerton	Aye
C. Getz	Aye
P. Ganley	Aye
E. Bradley	Aye
A. Ting	Aye
D. Mitchell	Aye

#### **Roll Call**

B. MacQuade Absent

N. Durkee Aye

E. Simone Aye

### **IV. Director's Update**

#### **A. Director's Report**

The full director's report appears in the meeting packet.

NDurkee expresses gratitude for the work being done to grow and improve the special ed department. This is a great response to parent concerns on the family caregiver survey.

Board Certified Behavioral Analyst (BCBA double check word) offer made earlier in the day June 11, 25.

DHererra: How many signed agreements have you received? KKuse: They have until Friday, but has received over 60. All agreements went out at the same time. Several people have asked for meetings for salary increases. Still searching for a STEM teacher to replace LIVES for one year.

ESimone: Noticed that there is a lead E2 teacher leaving, but no listing for a E2 lead teacher. KKuse: I am looking for an assistant to replace him. It seems that co leads doesn't seem to be the best structure.

Grounds Redesign: Order of conditions came through yesterday. As of then, the ten day appeal window begins. No concerns are expected.

Bid Packet: Aiming for date of sending out bids June 25. Using a software program BidDocs to do it. Has to to advertise in several outlets including local newspaper.

EBradley: Are we fully enrolled. KKuse: Yes.

EBradley: Have any families departed? KKuse: One family is moving this summer.

### **V. Finance Committee**

#### **A. Update**

Results for April 30 are included in the discussion for the last meeting.

Still in surplus approx 265K. Does not include the 75K that we budgeted as an ask from the foundation. We are going to forgo that ask.

Now it is time to decide what to do with the surplus. 100K to capitol reserve account. 90K in stipends to be awarded by the director. 40K for Montessori materials, phone system, etc. Remainder will go to retained earnings. Will kno wthe final numbers in June.

ATing: Exciting to see the 40K called out for materials. It's great to see us focusing on the mission. CWhitford: Please give kudos to KKuse, it was her

PGanley: What are retained earnings? CWhitford: Total revenue less expenses. Some is a rainy day fund. Some is good governance is having savings.

DH: If it comes in under 265, is retained earnings the first to go? CWhitford: Yes.

Budget:::

Every year we have asked the foundation for \$100K, last year, we cut that down to \$75. This year we aren't asking for anything. For next year, we are budgeting very conservatively. We are budgeting for a 3%, again very conservative, estimage is at 5%. To balance the budget, we need to hvae that ask from the foundation. We are asking for \$175 in the budget. Likely we will not need to ask the foundation.

**B. FY 25 Budget Surplus Vote**

C. Whitford made a motion to Approve the use of the 265K projected net income as outlined in the agenda. (Put in the amounts).

D. Herrera seconded the motion.

The board **VOTED** to approve the motion.

**Roll Call**

- E. Rankin      Absent
- E. Bradley     Aye
- M. Connerton Aye
- J. Nickerson   Aye
- A. Ting        Aye
- D. Mitchell    Aye
- E. Simone     Aye
- N. Durkee     Aye
- T. Murdy      Aye
- P. Ganley      Aye
- C. Whitford    Aye
- C. Getz        Aye
- B. MacQuade   Absent
- A. Godino      Absent
- D. Herrera     Aye

**C.**

**Vote to Approve FY 26 Budget**

C. Whitford made a motion to Approve the budget that was presented at the last findance committee meeting.

D. Herrera seconded the motion.

The board **VOTED** to approve the motion.

**Roll Call**

- A. Godino      Absent
- C. Whitford    Aye
- N. Durkee      Aye
- D. Mitchell    Aye
- E. Rankin      Absent
- M. Connerton Aye
- E. Bradley      Aye
- A. Ting        Aye
- D. Herrera     Aye
- T. Murdy       Aye
- P. Ganley       Aye
- B. MacQuade Absent
- C. Getz        Aye
- J. Nickerson   Aye
- E. Simone      Aye

**VI. Committee on Trustees**

**A. Board Leadership: Vote for Slate of Officers for FY '26**

A. Ting made a motion to Confirm Denise Herrera as Chair of the River Valley Charter School Board of Trustees for the 2025-2026 school year, beginning on 7/1/2025 ending on 6/30/2026.

N. Durkee seconded the motion.

The board **VOTED** to approve the motion.

**Roll Call**

- E. Simone      Aye
- A. Ting        Aye
- C. Getz        Aye
- J. Nickerson   Aye
- D. Mitchell    Aye
- P. Ganley       Aye
- M. Connerton Aye
- E. Rankin      Absent
- N. Durkee      Aye
- B. MacQuade Absent
- D. Herrera     Aye
- T. Murdy       Aye
- C. Whitford    Aye

**Roll Call**

E. Bradley     Aye  
A. Godino     Absent

A. Ting made a motion to Confirm Tanya Murdy as Vice Chair of the River Valley Charter School Board of Trustees for the 2025-2026 school year, beginning on 7/1/2025 ending on 6/30/2026.

C. Getz seconded the motion.

The board **VOTED** to approve the motion.

**Roll Call**

A. Ting             Aye  
M. Connerton   Aye  
E. Rankin        Absent  
E. Simone        Aye  
P. Ganley        Aye  
C. Whitford     Aye  
B. MacQuade   Absent  
C. Getz           Aye  
D. Mitchell      Aye  
D. Herrera       Aye  
E. Bradley       Aye  
T. Murdy          Aye  
J. Nickerson     Aye  
N. Durkee        Aye  
A. Godino        Absent

A. Ting made a motion to Confirm Chris Whitford as Treasurer of the River Valley Charter School Board of Trustees for the 2025-2026 school year, beginning on 7/1/2025 ending on 6/30/2026.

E. Bradley seconded the motion.

The board **VOTED** to approve the motion.

**Roll Call**

C. Getz           Aye  
E. Simone        Aye  
N. Durkee        Aye  
A. Ting           Aye  
A. Godino        Absent  
D. Mitchell      Aye  
E. Rankin        Absent  
E. Bradley       Aye  
T. Murdy          Aye  
D. Herrera       Aye  
P. Ganley        Aye  
B. MacQuade   Absent  
M. Connerton   Aye  
J. Nickerson     Aye  
C. Whitford     Aye

## **B. Board Retreat Follow Up**

SECOND

JNickerson: WEll facilitated and productvie. Walked away with good actions. As we head into next year, it gave us a good sense of what we need to do to improve things.

TMurdy: Really enjoyed the speaker. Kept us on task and methodical.

DH: Refreshing to hear how few meetings they have while still being a productive board.

CGetz: Came across that she had respect for our board and the way we respect and interact with each other.

DH: Let's take time in this meeting to break into small groups to focus our goals. 20 minutes.

More efficient board structure

Development

Director evaluation

Reviewed the "Parking Lot" ideas that were generated at the retreat. Took a few minutes to elaborate on and understand the brainstormed list. There are several that we can bubble up and a few that aren't under board purview.

Thank you for donating your time to

FIRST

EBradley: Presented gifts to ESimone and NDurkee thanking them for their service to the board. ATing: Thoughtful intelligent voice. He has never waived his kindness through many difficult meetings. Leads with his heart and asks thoughtful.

ESimone: It's been an honor, I wish I still had the time to dedicate to the board.

EBradley: NDurkee continued to show up for long time. Thanks you for digesting the information and always asking the good questions. Always bringing it back to asking if it's the right for the children.

ATing: Shared anecdotes that . Served through Covid and set a good direction for the board.

NDurkee: So excited for the direction of the school, for all the work that was done to bring KKuse to the school and the focus on Montessori. Thank you for the opportunity.

DHererra: Thanks you for being the center of gravity for accountability.

A. Ting made a motion to Confirm Jon Nickerson as Secretary of the River Valley Charter School Board of Trustees for the 2025-2026 school year, beginning on 7/1/2025 ending on 6/30/2026.

C. Getz seconded the motion.

The board **VOTED** to approve the motion.

**Roll Call**

A. Ting	Aye
D. Mitchell	Aye
E. Simone	Aye
M. Connerton	Aye
P. Ganley	Aye
N. Durkee	Aye
C. Whitford	Aye
E. Bradley	Aye
T. Murdy	Aye
A. Godino	Absent
J. Nickerson	Aye
B. MacQuade	Absent
C. Getz	Aye
E. Rankin	Absent
D. Herrera	Aye

**VII. Board of Trustee 2025-2026 Planning**

**A. Planning**

There is an opening for accountability chair.

This is gives us a chance to figure out who will back fill as the EC moves on. This will be a learning year.

There are some potential trustees in the pipeline. Waiting on one person's application for sure.

Try to get our trustees split into three cycles for longevity and institutional knowledge.

Committee heads, please check in with your members to see their future plans.

CWhitford: the goal is to move the committee meetings to daytime on zoom. Try to reduce in general and align them with the arc of the year.

Reviewed the scheduling for committees' meetings for the following year.

The goal is to hold meetings that are necessary and timely while not having meetings just to have a meeting. Boil it down to the essentials.

How do you get more people to join committees? By having fewer meetings. HA HA

Development: Elizabeth sent meetings. 7 meetings, aug, sept, oct, jan, feb, april, may, some have topics.

COT: 8 main things to consider for meetings. External Board Assessment, Onboarding, etc.

EC:

This is all on the RVCS Board 2025-2026 Calendar.

There will be an August BOT meeting. Next year's BOT meetings will continue to be Wednesday evening. Committee meetings could be shifted around some to eliminate multiple meetings on evenings.

The calendar will continue to be developed and passed around when it is complete.

DH will explore whether meetings can be held completely remotely.

## **VIII. Exectuive Committee**

### **A. Director Survey**

Working on an end of year faculty survey. Hopefully to occur in June so the current executive slate can receive and evaluate the resutls.

## **IX. Closing Items**

### **A. Board Meeting Survey**

### **B. Adjourn Meeting**

D. Herrera made a motion to adjour.

A. Ting seconded the motion.

The board **VOTED** to approve the motion.

**Roll Call**

- |              |        |
|--------------|--------|
| A. Godino    | Absent |
| D. Mitchell  | Aye    |
| E. Rankin    | Absent |
| M. Connerton | Aye    |
| P. Ganley    | Aye    |
| E. Bradley   | Aye    |
| T. Murdy     | Aye    |
| J. Nickerson | Aye    |
| B. MacQuade  | Absent |
| C. Whitford  | Aye    |
| C. Getz      | Aye    |
| E. Simone    | Aye    |
| A. Ting      | Aye    |
| D. Herrera   | Aye    |
| N. Durkee    | Aye    |

There being no further business to be transacted, and upon motion duly made, seconded and approved, the meeting was adjourned at 9:00 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,  
D. Herrera

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**Documents used during the meeting**

- 2025\_06\_02\_accountability\_committee\_meeting\_minutes.pdf
- 2025\_06\_02\_development\_committee\_meeting\_minutes.pdf
- 2025\_06\_04\_executive\_committee\_meeting\_minutes.pdf
- 2025\_06\_04\_finance\_meeting\_minutes.pdf
- 6.11.2025 Director's Report.pdf
- FY 26 Board of Trustees Calendar
- FY 26 Board of Trustees Calendar

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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.