APPROVED

River Valley Charter School

Minutes

Board Meeting

Date and Time
Wednesday June 17, 2026 at 7:00 PM

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

Trustees Present
A. Godino (remote), A. Ting (remote), B. MacQuade (remote), C. Getz (remote), D. Herrera (remote), D. Mitchell (remote), E. Bradley (remote), E. Rankin (remote), G. LeFave (remote), J. Nickerson (remote), M. Connerton (remote), T. Murdy (remote)

Trustees Absent
None

Ex Officio Members Present

J. Gustafson (remote)

Non Voting Members Present
J. Gustafson (remote)

I. Opening Items

A. Record Attendance

B. Call the Meeting to Order

T. Murdy called a meeting of the board of trustees of River Valley Charter School to order on Wednesday Jun 17, 2026 at 7:01 PM.

C. Public Comment

Five public speakers

- Amy Cameron
- Renee Ward
- Aly Ward
- Amanda Weber
- Shelby Lee

D. Review Trustee Code of Conduct

Trustee code of conduct posted for board and public to review

II. Approve Previous Board Minutes

A. Approve Minutes

T. Murdy made a motion to approve the minutes from Board Meeting on 04-29-26.
G. LeFave seconded the motion.
Add location of meeting - Middle School Great Room (in person)
The board **VOTED** to approve the motion.

Roll Call

J. Nickerson	Aye
T. Murdy	Aye
E. Rankin	Aye
M. Connerton	Aye
D. Mitchell	Aye
B. MacQuade	Aye

Roll Call

G. LeFave	Aye
A. Godino	Aye
C. Getz	Aye
A. Ting	Aye
D. Herrera	Aye
E. Bradley	Aye

B. Approve Board Meeting Minutes

J. Nickerson made a motion to approve the minutes from Board Meeting on 06-09-26.
G. LeFave seconded the motion.
The board **VOTED** to approve the motion.

Roll Call

D. Mitchell	Abstain
C. Getz	Aye
T. Murdy	Aye
A. Ting	Aye
E. Bradley	Abstain
J. Nickerson	Aye
G. LeFave	Aye
D. Herrera	Abstain
A. Godino	Aye
M. Connerton	Abstain
B. MacQuade	Aye
E. Rankin	Aye

C. Approve Board Meeting Minutes

E. Bradley made a motion to approve the minutes from Board Meeting on 06-02-26.
G. LeFave seconded the motion.
Update Karen's name in two places
Add Tatiana's last name - Dutra Perez
The board **VOTED** to approve the motion.

Roll Call

D. Herrera	Aye
E. Rankin	Aye
A. Ting	Aye
T. Murdy	Aye
B. MacQuade	Aye
G. LeFave	Aye
A. Godino	Aye
J. Nickerson	Aye
E. Bradley	Aye
C. Getz	Aye
M. Connerton	Aye

Roll Call

D. Mitchell	Aye

D. Approve Board Meeting Minutes

G. LeFave made a motion to approve the minutes from Special Board Meeting on 05-27-26.
E. Rankin seconded the motion.

- Should include purpose for meeting beyond template purposes - at the request of the community, note hosted by board member, and rules of engagement, number of remote and in person participants

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

Roll Call

M. Connerton	Aye
E. Bradley	No
D. Mitchell	Abstain
A. Godino	Aye
T. Murdy	Aye
D. Herrera	Abstain
J. Nickerson	Aye
E. Rankin	Aye
A. Ting	Abstain
C. Getz	Abstain
B. MacQuade	Aye
G. LeFave	Aye

E. Approve Board Meeting Minutes

G. LeFave made a motion to approve the minutes from Board Meeting on 05-20-26.
C. Getz seconded the motion.

- In part 4, board business by-laws - discussion request from Meg Connerton - suggest repeat purpose in the minutes
- Section 5, CoT - minutes reflect a pause to consider for passing - note that the mission was shortened and missing opportunity to pass best practices - show best practices for showing duty of care.
- Section C on CoT - section blank on board committee nominations - transition information from the documents for completeness - note where the file is stored for ease of finding
- Bylaws A - Erin Bradley made a motion to vote on, not pass bylaws

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

Roll Call

C. Getz	Aye

Roll Call

A. Ting	Aye
E. Bradley	Aye
A. Godino	Aye
M. Connerton	Aye
G. LeFave	Aye
J. Nickerson	Aye
E. Rankin	Aye
B. MacQuade	Aye
T. Murdy	Aye
D. Mitchell	Aye
D. Herrera	Aye

F. Approve Board Meeting Minutes

G. LeFave made a motion to approve the minutes from Special Board Meeting on 04-09-26.
C. Getz seconded the motion.
The board **VOTED** to approve the motion.

Roll Call

E. Rankin	Aye
M. Connerton	Aye
B. MacQuade	Aye
C. Getz	Aye
G. LeFave	Aye
J. Nickerson	Aye
D. Herrera	Aye
D. Mitchell	Aye
T. Murdy	Aye
A. Ting	Aye
A. Godino	Aye
E. Bradley	Abstain

G. Approve Board Meeting Minutes

G. LeFave made a motion to approve the minutes from Special Meeting on 03-12-26.
C. Getz seconded the motion.

- Section A - Complaint Committee - complaint committee clarified terminology - add the language in the write up to close the loop
  - Attach document from Complaint Committee that summarizes

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

Roll Call

B. MacQuade	Aye
E. Rankin	Aye

Roll Call

D. Herrera	Aye
G. LeFave	Aye
T. Murdy	Aye
A. Godino	Aye
M. Connerton	Aye
D. Mitchell	Aye
C. Getz	Aye
A. Ting	Aye
J. Nickerson	Aye
E. Bradley	Aye

H. Approve Board Meeting Minutes

E. Rankin made a motion to approve the minutes from Emergency Board Meeting on 05-17-26.
G. LeFave seconded the motion.

- Location should read "Zoom"

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

Roll Call

D. Mitchell	Aye
B. MacQuade	Aye
C. Getz	Aye
E. Bradley	Aye
A. Godino	Aye
T. Murdy	Aye
E. Rankin	Aye
M. Connerton	Aye
D. Herrera	Aye
A. Ting	Aye
G. LeFave	Aye
J. Nickerson	Aye

I. Approve Board Meeting Minutes

E. Rankin made a motion to approve the minutes from EMERGENCY MEETING on 05-28-26.
G. LeFave seconded the motion.

- Location - "Zoom"
- Section A - write out purpose 1

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

Roll Call

T. Murdy	Aye

Roll Call

M. Connerton	Aye
C. Getz	Aye
G. LeFave	Aye
D. Mitchell	Aye
E. Rankin	Aye
E. Bradley	Aye
J. Nickerson	Aye
B. MacQuade	Aye
D. Herrera	Aye
A. Ting	Aye
A. Godino	Aye

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.
G. LeFave seconded the motion.
Board members engaged in a **brief discussion focused primarily on prior meeting minutes included in the consent agenda**, rather than the full set of consent items.

Key points discussed:

- **Consistency in minutes authorship and formatting:**
  Board members noted inconsistencies in how minutes are attributed (e.g., who is listed as the author) and emphasized the importance of maintaining a consistent approach across meetings.
- **Clarity and alignment between related meeting records:**
  A concern was raised that descriptions of executive session purposes should be **aligned and consistent across different meeting minutes (e.g., Committee on Trustees vs. Board minutes)** to avoid discrepancies.
- **Improving documentation of executive session rationale:**
  It was suggested that standardized language (e.g., listing allowable executive session reasons) be made easily accessible so that future minutes can reflect the correct statutory wording consistently.

- **Minor corrections and accuracy updates:**
  Board members identified small corrections (e.g., spelling of names) that should be incorporated into finalized minutes.

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

Roll Call

D. Herrera	Aye
M. Connerton	Abstain
E. Rankin	Aye
C. Getz	Aye
B. MacQuade	Abstain
E. Bradley	Aye
A. Ting	Aye
D. Mitchell	Abstain
J. Nickerson	Aye
G. LeFave	Aye
A. Godino	Abstain
T. Murdy	Aye

IV. Director's Update

A. Director's Report

The Interim Executive Director, Joey Gustafson, provided an update on her first approximately ten days in the role.

She shared that she has:

- Conducted **extensive stakeholder engagement**, including meetings with approximately 30 staff members and multiple families
- Participated in key school activities and events, including student presentations, graduation, and faculty meetings
- Initiated operational and compliance work, including **IEP-related processes, a fire drill, and internal coordination meetings**
- Engaged with external stakeholders, including the Massachusetts Charter School Association and media engagement efforts resulting in a positive news article

The Director noted both:

- **Challenges experienced by the community over the past year**, and
- **Positive observations**, including strong student engagement, dedicated faculty, and a committed caregiver community

The report emphasized a forward-looking focus on maintaining **stability, continuity of operations, and support for students and staff** during the current transition period.

V. Policy

A. Approve Policy

E. Rankin made a motion to Approve Attendance Policy.
D. Mitchell seconded the motion.
The Board engaged in a detailed review of the proposed attendance policy, focusing on clarity, consistency, and alignment with both state requirements and the school's values.

Key discussion points included:

- **Tone and overall framing of the policy**
  Board members expressed concern that portions of the policy—particularly regarding chronic absenteeism—felt overly rigid or punitive. It was suggested that the language be softened to better reflect a collaborative, family-centered approach while still addressing compliance expectations.
- **Clarity of intent and internal consistency**
  Members noted that the policy appeared to shift between different purposes (legal compliance vs. student support), creating confusion. There was a strong recommendation to clearly define the intent of the policy and ensure consistent language throughout, particularly given that content had been pulled from multiple external sources.
- **Use of terminology and alignment with governing frameworks**
  Discussion highlighted the need to select and consistently apply a single framework for terminology (e.g., legal terms such as "habitually truant" vs. educational or health-oriented language such as "chronic absenteeism" or "chronic illness"). Mixing terminology was identified as a source of confusion.
- **Inconsistencies within the policy; s**everal discrepancies were identified, including:
  - Conflicting thresholds for absences (e.g., references to both five and ten absences prior to midyear)
  - Misalignment in expectations or definitions across sections

Relevance and appropriateness of included content; The Board recommended removing or revising content that was not directly relevant to attendance, including:

- References to medication or health office procedures that are better suited for other policies
- District-specific language (e.g., references to a "school committee") that does not apply to the charter school governance structure
- Embedded links, recommending instead citing applicable laws or guidance without relying on links that may become outdated over time

Operational alignment and practical implementation; Members raised concerns about gaps between policy and current practice, including:

- Requirements that are not consistently implemented (e.g., sign-in procedures)
- Removal of key operational details (such as call-in expectations or timing), with a need to clarify where this information will live (e.g., family handbook)
- Questions around how absence reporting and communication expectations will be conveyed to families
- **Excused vs. unexcused absences -** The Board discussed whether distinguishing between excused and unexcused absences is meaningful under state guidelines, noting that while all absences may count toward totals, the distinction can still inform how the school supports students and families.
- **Equity, student support, and intent of enforcement -** Members emphasized the importance of ensuring the policy functions as a **support mechanism rather than a punitive tool**, particularly in cases involving medical or personal circumstances. There was concern that overly rigid language could unintentionally penalize families managing legitimate challenges.
- **Process and next steps -** There was a recommendation that the policy author be present for future discussion to clarify intent and respond to questions directly.

The motion did not carry.

Roll Call

C. Getz	No
M. Connerton	No
E. Bradley	Abstain
E. Rankin	No
A. Ting	No
T. Murdy	No
J. Nickerson	No
D. Herrera	No
D. Mitchell	No
A. Godino	Abstain
B. MacQuade	No
G. LeFave	No

E. Rankin made a motion to Approve Animal Policy.
G. LeFave seconded the motion.
The Board reviewed the proposed animal policy and engaged in discussion focused on equity, practicality, and clarity of both the policy content and development process.

Key discussion points included:

- **Equity and access considerations -** Board members raised concerns about ensuring the policy is equitable for all students, particularly in relation to classroom access, student needs, and potential unintended barriers created by the presence of animals in the school environment.

- **Health and safety implications -** The discussion highlighted the need to carefully consider health-related factors, including allergies and sensitivities, and to ensure the policy clearly defines how these situations will be managed in practice.
- **Clarity of purpose and scope -** Members emphasized the importance of clearly articulating the intent of the policy, including what types of animals are permitted, under what conditions, and for what purposes (e.g., classroom use vs. other contexts). There was a need to ensure the policy is specific enough to guide consistent decision-making.
- **Consistency and completeness of the policy -** Similar to other policies discussed, there was concern that the current draft lacked cohesion and may have been developed from multiple sources. Board members recommended ensuring consistent language and a complete, well-structured framework.
- **Operational feasibility and implementation -** Questions were raised about how the policy would be implemented in practice, including:
  - Who is responsible for decision-making and approvals
  - How consistency will be ensured across classrooms
  - How exceptions or special circumstances will be handled
- **Policy development process -** Members noted the importance of having clear ownership and involvement from appropriate staff in drafting the policy, with a recommendation that leadership (including the Interim Executive Director) be closely involved in refining the policy.

The motion did not carry.

Roll Call

D. Herrera	No
M. Connerton	No
A. Ting	No
A. Godino	Abstain
G. LeFave	No
D. Mitchell	No
E. Bradley	Abstain
T. Murdy	No
E. Rankin	No
C. Getz	No
J. Nickerson	No
B. MacQuade	No

VI. Interim Executive Director Search

A. Search Questions Overview

- **Discussion Summary** - The Board engaged in an in-depth discussion regarding the process for identifying and selecting an interim and longer-term executive director, with a focus on balancing urgency, transparency, and community engagement.

- **Balancing speed with inclusivity** - Board members acknowledged the need to move quickly to ensure leadership continuity, while emphasizing the importance of incorporating meaningful input from staff, families, and the broader community. There was recognition that prior accelerated timelines may have limited stakeholder engagement and the size of the candidate pool.
- **Community engagement approach** - The Board discussed methods for gathering stakeholder input, including surveys and smaller focus group sessions, noting that structured engagement may be more effective than large open forums.
- **Transparency throughout the process** - Members emphasized the importance of clear communication with the community while acknowledging the need to maintain confidentiality in certain aspects of the hiring process.
- **Board ownership and decision-making** - The discussion reinforced that the Board retains responsibility for final hiring decisions and oversight of executive leadership, even while incorporating community feedback.
- **Shift toward maintaining current interim leadership** - Through discussion, there was a notable shift away from pursuing a broader interim search process, with multiple members expressing support for maintaining Joey Gustafson in the interim role. The Board acknowledged the need for stability during the transition period and the benefits of continuity in leadership.
- **Timeline considerations and trust** - Members discussed the importance of balancing a thorough and inclusive search process with the need for timely decision-making and rebuilding trust within the community through a clear and transparent approach.

VII. Finance Committee

A. Update

- **Finance Committee Report – Discussion Summary** - The Finance Committee presented an overview of current financials and the proposed budget, highlighting key revenue assumptions, expense pressures, and items requiring Board approval.
- **Current financial position and revenue assumptions** - The Committee noted that tuition remains the primary revenue source and is inherently variable due to enrollment mix and state funding guidance. The current fiscal year benefited from higher-than-anticipated tuition increases, which helped offset transition-related costs.
- **Foundation funding and year-end outlook** - The Board discussed the role of foundation support in supplementing operating revenue, including partial drawdown of planned funds and the potential for additional requests. The school is currently projecting a modest positive position heading into year-end.
- **Future revenue outlook and financial pressures** - The Committee highlighted an expected decline in tuition growth compared to prior years, alongside increasing expenses. This shift is expected to create tighter operating conditions and will require more careful financial management going forward.

- **Expense pressures and cost management** - Rising fringe benefit costs were identified as a significant pressure point, along with efforts to increase staff compensation. The Committee emphasized the importance of closely managing costs as revenue growth moderates.
- **Fundraising and development needs** - The Board discussed the increasing importance of fundraising as a supplemental revenue source. There was acknowledgment that current fundraising levels do not fully offset planned withdrawals and that expanded development efforts will be necessary.
- **Capital and facilities considerations** - Potential future expenses related to facilities and maintenance were noted, reinforcing the need for sustained fundraising and long-term financial planning.

B. FY 25-26 Budget Surplus Vote

D. Mitchell made a motion to Approve stipends for 25-26 stipend of $90K.
T. Murdy seconded the motion.
The board **VOTED** to approve the motion.

Roll Call

A. Godino	Aye
J. Nickerson	Aye
T. Murdy	Aye
E. Bradley	Aye
D. Herrera	Aye
G. LeFave	Aye
D. Mitchell	Aye
B. MacQuade	Aye
M. Connerton	Aye
C. Getz	Aye
A. Ting	Aye
E. Rankin	Aye

C. Vote to Approve FY 26-27 Budget

D. Mitchell made a motion to Approve FY26-27 Budget.
T. Murdy seconded the motion.
The board **VOTED** to approve the motion.

Roll Call

J. Nickerson	Aye
E. Rankin	Aye
A. Godino	Aye
D. Mitchell	Aye
D. Herrera	Aye
T. Murdy	Aye
E. Bradley	Aye
C. Getz	Aye

Roll Call

A. Ting	Aye
G. LeFave	Aye
M. Connerton	Aye
B. MacQuade	Aye

D. Daniel Dennis & Company

D. Mitchell made a motion to Approval of Daniel Dennis & Company as FY26-27 auditor.
T. Murdy seconded the motion.
The board **VOTED** to approve the motion.

Roll Call

E. Bradley	Aye
A. Godino	Aye
E. Rankin	Aye
D. Herrera	Aye
M. Connerton	Aye
T. Murdy	Aye
A. Ting	Aye
J. Nickerson	Aye
C. Getz	Aye
G. LeFave	Aye
B. MacQuade	Aye
D. Mitchell	Aye

VIII. Committee on Trustees

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

J. Nickerson made a motion to Elect Tanya Murdy as Board Chair for 26-27 School Year.
E. Rankin seconded the motion.

- **Discussion Summary** - The Board engaged in an extended discussion prior to the vote on Board Chair, including multiple prepared statements and remarks outlining perspectives on leadership, governance priorities, and the direction of the Board moving forward.
- **Prepared statements and member remarks** - Several members delivered structured, pre-prepared statements reflecting on the current state of the Board and school community, as well as the leadership qualities needed at this time. These remarks emphasized personal perspectives on governance, experience, and vision for Board leadership, and provided a more formal framing to the discussion than typical deliberations.
- **Leadership priorities and expectations** - Members highlighted the importance of strong, steady leadership during a period of transition, with emphasis on rebuilding trust, improving communication, and ensuring effective governance practices.

There was a shared focus on the need for clarity in roles, accountability, and alignment among Board members.

- **Governance structure and officer responsibilities** - The Board reviewed the defined responsibilities of officer roles, including Chair, Vice Chair, and Treasurer, noting the expectation that these positions provide leadership across committees and support overall Board functioning. Discussion also included consideration of how roles are structured and named to ensure clarity and avoid confusion.
- **Alignment on direction and stability** - The discussion reflected a broader desire for stability and cohesion within the Board, with members emphasizing the importance of working collaboratively and maintaining a unified approach following the vote.
- **Tone and dynamic of discussion** - The conversation was more formal and reflective than procedural, with extended remarks rather than rapid back-and-forth dialogue. The use of prepared statements contributed to a structured and deliberate tone leading into the vote.
- **Transition to vote** - Following completion of member remarks and discussion, the Board confirmed readiness to proceed and moved into formal voting on Board leadership positions.

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

Roll Call

T. Murdy	Aye
J. Nickerson	Aye
B. MacQuade	Abstain
E. Rankin	Aye
A. Godino	Abstain
D. Herrera	Aye
C. Getz	Aye
G. LeFave	Aye
M. Connerton	No
E. Bradley	Aye
A. Ting	Aye
D. Mitchell	No

T. Murdy made a motion to Elect Jonathan Nickerson for Vice Chair for FY26-27 School Year.
C. Getz seconded the motion.

- **Discussion Summary** - The Board engaged in discussion prior to the vote for Vice Chair, focusing on leadership structure, role clarity, and the expectations associated with Board officer positions.
- **Clarification of Vice Chair responsibilities** - Members reviewed the defined responsibilities of the Vice Chair role, including supporting the Chair, assuming responsibilities in the Chair's absence, and providing leadership across key committees and Board functions.

- **Alignment with committee leadership structure** - The discussion highlighted how officer roles, including the Vice Chair, align with committee oversight responsibilities. Members emphasized the importance of ensuring that leadership roles are structured to support effective coordination and overall Board health.
- **Role definition and naming considerations** - The Board discussed how leadership roles are defined and titled, including considerations around introducing or refining positions with specific functional responsibilities. There was a focus on ensuring clarity in expectations and avoiding confusion or overlap between roles.
- **Balancing structure with practical implementation** - Members noted the importance of maintaining clear role definitions while allowing flexibility in how responsibilities are carried out in practice, particularly given the evolving needs of the Board.
- **Focus on governance effectiveness** - The discussion emphasized that the Vice Chair role should support strong governance practices, including clear communication, coordination across committees, and continuity of leadership.
- **Tone and readiness for vote** - The discussion was largely procedural, with an emphasis on confirming shared understanding of the role and its responsibilities prior to moving to a formal vote.

The motion did not carry.

Roll Call

A. Ting	Aye
D. Mitchell	No
E. Rankin	Aye
A. Godino	Abstain
E. Bradley	Aye
B. MacQuade	Abstain
T. Murdy	Aye
J. Nickerson	Aye
C. Getz	Aye
D. Herrera	No
M. Connerton	No
G. LeFave	Abstain

A. Godino made a motion to Elect Meg Connerton as Board Vice Chair for FY26-27 School Year.
E. Rankin seconded the motion.

- **Discussion Summary** - The Board engaged in discussion prior to the vote for Vice Chair, continuing themes of leadership structure, role clarity, and alignment on governance needs.
- **Prepared remarks and member perspectives** - Similar to the preceding leadership discussion, members offered structured remarks reflecting on leadership priorities, Board dynamics, and the qualities needed in Vice Chair support of the broader leadership team. The discussion included multiple viewpoints intended to frame decision-making rather than extended debate.

- **Role of Vice Chair in supporting board leadership** - Members emphasized the importance of the Vice Chair role in supporting the Chair, providing continuity in leadership, and ensuring effective coordination across Board committees and responsibilities.
- **Alignment with governance priorities** - The discussion reinforced the expectation that the Vice Chair role should support key governance priorities, including improving communication, strengthening collaboration, and maintaining focus on Board effectiveness during a period of transition.
- **Consistency in leadership structure** - The Board revisited the importance of clearly defined roles and responsibilities across officers, ensuring that the Vice Chair position complements the Chair and Treasurer roles without creating overlap or confusion.
- **Tone and dynamic of discussion** - The discussion remained structured and measured, with an emphasis on shared understanding of responsibilities and leadership expectations rather than open-ended deliberation.
- **Transition to vote** - Following discussion and confirmation of role expectations, the Board proceeded to a formal vote on the Vice Chair position.

The motion did not carry.

Roll Call

T. Murdy	No
A. Godino	Aye
A. Ting	No
D. Mitchell	Aye
M. Connerton	Aye
E. Rankin	No
J. Nickerson	No
G. LeFave	Aye
B. MacQuade	Aye
D. Herrera	Aye
C. Getz	No
E. Bradley	Abstain

D. Mitchell made a motion to Create a new officer level position - Special Projects Officer - for the FY26-27 School Year.
A. Godino seconded the motion.

- **Discussion Summary** - Following Board leadership voting, the Board identified a split result in one of the officer roles, resulting in a lack of clear majority and prompting discussion on next steps.
- **Tie vote and lack of majority** - The Board acknowledged that the vote resulted in an even split, preventing a decision from being finalized under the existing structure. Members recognized the need to resolve the deadlock in a way that maintained continuity of leadership and governance effectiveness.
- **Need for a path forward** - Discussion focused on ensuring that the Board could move forward productively rather than delaying leadership decisions. Members

emphasized the importance of being decisive and avoiding extended uncertainty following the tie outcome.
- **Consideration of structural adjustment** - The Board discussed modifying the leadership structure as a practical solution to the impasse, including creating an additional or redefined role to accommodate differing perspectives while maintaining overall Board functionality.
- **Creation of a new role** - The Board reached alignment on establishing an additional officer role, broadly framed around project management or special projects, as a way to incorporate leadership contributions while resolving the split outcome.
- **Role definition and next steps** - It was acknowledged that the responsibilities and scope of the new role would need to be further defined, with the expectation that details would be clarified and formalized in the coming weeks.
- **Maintaining governance effectiveness and cohesion** - The discussion reflected a broader intent to maintain cohesion within the Board and move forward collaboratively while respecting differing viewpoints expressed in the vote.
- **Transition to formal action** - Following discussion, the Board proceeded to formalize the updated leadership structure and continue with officer selections under the revised framework.

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

Roll Call

E. Rankin	Abstain
D. Mitchell	Aye
B. MacQuade	Aye
J. Nickerson	Aye
G. LeFave	Aye
M. Connerton	Aye
E. Bradley	Aye
A. Godino	Aye
C. Getz	Aye
A. Ting	Aye
D. Herrera	Aye
T. Murdy	Aye

Motion to Elect Meg Connerton to the Special Projects Officer for the FY26-27 School Year.

A. Godino seconded the motion.

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

Roll Call

D. Herrera	Aye
G. LeFave	Aye
M. Connerton	Aye
A. Godino	Aye
D. Mitchell	Aye

Roll Call

B. MacQuade	Aye
A. Ting	Aye
J. Nickerson	Aye
E. Bradley	Aye
C. Getz	Aye
T. Murdy	Aye
E. Rankin	Abstain

T. Murdy made a motion to Elect Jonathan Nickerson to Vice Chair for FY26-27 School Year.

C. Getz seconded the motion.

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

Roll Call

D. Herrera	Aye
C. Getz	Aye
A. Ting	Aye
T. Murdy	Aye
J. Nickerson	Aye
G. LeFave	Aye
A. Godino	Aye
B. MacQuade	Aye
E. Rankin	Aye
M. Connerton	Aye
E. Bradley	Aye
D. Mitchell	Aye

T. Murdy made a motion to Elect Gary LeFave to Treasurer for FY26-27 School Year.

C. Getz seconded the motion.

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

Roll Call

E. Bradley	Aye
A. Godino	Aye
C. Getz	Aye
B. MacQuade	Aye
D. Mitchell	Aye
G. LeFave	Aye
D. Herrera	Aye
M. Connerton	Aye
T. Murdy	Aye
J. Nickerson	Aye
E. Rankin	Aye
A. Ting	Aye

J. Nickerson made a motion to Elect Achala Godino to Secretary for the FY26-27 School Year.

C. Getz seconded the motion.

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

Roll Call

E. Bradley	Aye
B. MacQuade	Aye
M. Connerton	Aye
A. Ting	Aye
T. Murdy	Aye
D. Herrera	Aye
E. Rankin	Aye
C. Getz	Aye
G. LeFave	Aye
J. Nickerson	Aye
D. Mitchell	Aye
A. Godino	Aye

B. Board Trustee Nominees

J. Nickerson made a motion to Elect Beth Friedman to a 3 year term on the RVCS Board of Trustees.
B. MacQuade seconded the motion.
The board **VOTED** unanimously to approve the motion.

Roll Call

A. Godino	Aye
T. Murdy	Aye
E. Bradley	Aye
D. Mitchell	Aye
C. Getz	Aye
D. Herrera	Aye
A. Ting	Aye
B. MacQuade	Aye
E. Rankin	Aye
M. Connerton	Aye
J. Nickerson	Aye
G. LeFave	Aye

J. Nickerson made a motion to Elect Alex Tsonas to a 3 year term on the RVCS Board of Trustees.
T. Murdy seconded the motion.
The board **VOTED** unanimously to approve the motion.

Roll Call

T. Murdy	Aye
E. Bradley	Aye
J. Nickerson	Aye
D. Mitchell	Aye
D. Herrera	Aye
C. Getz	Aye
A. Godino	Aye

Roll Call

E. Rankin	Aye
M. Connerton	Aye
B. MacQuade	Aye
A. Ting	Aye
G. LeFave	Aye

J. Nickerson made a motion to Elect Tyler Chiasson to a 3 year term on the RVCS Board of Trustees.

C. Getz seconded the motion.

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

Roll Call

M. Connerton	Aye
B. MacQuade	Aye
T. Murdy	Aye
C. Getz	Aye
D. Mitchell	Aye
D. Herrera	Aye
A. Godino	Aye
E. Rankin	Aye
G. LeFave	Aye
E. Bradley	Aye
A. Ting	Aye
J. Nickerson	Aye

J. Nickerson made a motion to Elect Alison Salerno to a 3 year term on the RVCS Board of Trustees.

C. Getz seconded the motion.

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

Roll Call

D. Mitchell	Aye
T. Murdy	Aye
E. Rankin	Aye
C. Getz	Aye
D. Herrera	Aye
G. LeFave	Aye
A. Godino	Aye
J. Nickerson	Aye
B. MacQuade	Aye
E. Bradley	Aye
M. Connerton	Aye
A. Ting	Aye

J. Nickerson made a motion to Elect Meredith Makin to a 3 year term on the RVCS Board of Trustees.

D. Herrera seconded the motion.

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

Roll Call

D. Herrera	Aye
C. Getz	Aye
E. Rankin	Aye
A. Godino	Aye
D. Mitchell	Aye
J. Nickerson	Aye
T. Murdy	Aye
M. Connerton	Aye
B. MacQuade	Aye
G. LeFave	Aye
A. Ting	Aye
E. Bradley	Aye

J. Nickerson made a motion to Elect Farrell Boghos-Maryniak to a 3 year term on the RVCS Board of Trustees.

E. Rankin seconded the motion.

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

Roll Call

E. Rankin	Aye
A. Ting	Aye
B. MacQuade	Aye
C. Getz	Aye
D. Mitchell	Aye
T. Murdy	Aye
M. Connerton	Aye
G. LeFave	Aye
J. Nickerson	Aye
E. Bradley	Aye
D. Herrera	Aye
A. Godino	Aye

J. Nickerson made a motion to Elect Daniel Candelario to a 3 year term on the RVCS Board of Trustees.

D. Herrera seconded the motion.

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

Roll Call

T. Murdy	Aye
B. MacQuade	Aye
D. Herrera	Aye
M. Connerton	Aye
E. Rankin	Aye
D. Mitchell	Aye
A. Ting	Aye
G. LeFave	Aye
C. Getz	Aye

Roll Call

A. Godino	Aye
E. Bradley	Aye
J. Nickerson	Aye

J. Nickerson made a motion to Elect John Ellen to a 1 year term as Faculty Representative to the RVCS Board of Trustees for the FY26-27 School Year.
D. Mitchell seconded the motion.
The board **VOTED** unanimously to approve the motion.

Roll Call

D. Mitchell	Aye
T. Murdy	Aye
M. Connerton	Aye
J. Nickerson	Aye
D. Herrera	Aye
B. MacQuade	Aye
E. Bradley	Aye
G. LeFave	Aye
E. Rankin	Aye
A. Godino	Aye
C. Getz	Aye
A. Ting	Aye

- **Discussion Summary** - Erin Bradley brought forward a nomination for an additional board member, with the Board engaging in brief discussion focused on the rationale for the nomination, candidate fit, and alignment with Board needs.
- **Context for nomination** - The nomination was presented in the context of strengthening Board composition through added expertise and perspective. Members noted the value of continuing to build a balanced Board with diverse skill sets and backgrounds to support governance and school priorities.
- **Candidate qualifications and contribution** - The Board discussed Martha Rettig's background and potential contributions, noting alignment with current Board needs and areas where additional expertise would be beneficial. Commentary was supportive and focused on how the nominee could add value to Board deliberations and decision-making.
- **Alignment with Board needs and priorities** - Members considered how the nomination supports broader Board goals, including strengthening governance capability, expanding representation, and ensuring the Board is well-positioned to address ongoing organizational priorities.
- **Process and compliance considerations** - It was noted that the Board would review the appropriateness and legitimacy of bringing forward the nomination outside of the standard cycle and would revisit the decision within approximately 30 days, consistent with expectations for review and follow-up.

IX. Closing Items

A.

Adjourn Meeting

There being no further business to be transacted, and upon motion duly made, seconded and approved, the meeting was adjourned at 12:06 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,
T. Murdy

Documents used during the meeting

- BoT_Expectations_2_7_23__1_ (7).pdf
- 2026_06_04_executive_committee_committee_meeting_minutes.pdf
- 2026_05_15_committee_on_trustees_meeting_minutes.pdf
- 2026_05_15_executive_session__-committee_on_trustees_minutes.pdf
- Karen Kuse BoT Updates.pdf
- River Valley Charter School proposed Animal Policy (1) (1).pdf
- New attendance policy 2026.pdf
- IMG_5784.jpeg
- Executive Director Hiring Stakeholder Input Gathering.pdf
- May_Financials.xlsx
- FY27_Budget_V5.xlsx
- Leadership Slate Voting Procedures (2).pdf
- 6.9.26 PRS 16227 River Valley Charter NFA Final.pdf
- AC_2025-26.pdf

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.