

APPROVED



**RIVER VALLEY  
CHARTER SCHOOL**  
*montessori made public*

## River Valley Charter School

# Minutes

## Committee on Trustees Meeting

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### Date and Time

Wednesday December 10, 2025 at 6:00 PM

### Location

Teams Meeting:

### [Join the meeting now](#)

Meeting ID: 230 354 612 053 7

Passcode: Tu2xT9TV

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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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### Committee Members Present

C. Getz (remote), E. Bradley (remote), J. Nickerson (remote), T. Murdy (remote)

### Committee Members Absent

K. Kuse

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## I. Opening Items

### A. Record Attendance

### B. Call the Meeting to Order

T. Murdy called a meeting of the Committee on Trustees Committee of River Valley Charter School to order on Wednesday Dec 10, 2025 at 6:03 PM.

### C. Approve 10/08/25 Minutes

J. Nickerson made a motion to approve the minutes from Committee on Trustees Meeting on 10-08-25.

T. Murdy seconded the motion.

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

#### Roll Call

J. Nickerson Aye  
T. Murdy Aye  
K. Kuse Absent  
E. Bradley Aye  
C. Getz Aye

## II. Committee on Trustees

### A. Update Bylaws

- Given enough time for people to review and give feedback
- Add to agenda to vote on the update formally

### B. Board Education

- Certain people on the board do the heavy lifting so need to figure out how to spread the work
  - One issue is that information isn't flowing down from the the EC and have to think about to align there
  - Alot of talk and no action in the board
  - Do we need to just call people out
- Karen making a push to better align the school to Montessori best practices so maybe do a training around that
  - Ex. how do we align Accountability to Montessori
  - Could we add the "Montessori Minute" back into the board meetings
    - Tie back to what the kids are doing and understanding of how it differs from how other schools work
- Retreat Training
  - SMART Goals

- Less Meetings - Hasn't worked for Development to date, but has for Finance - so has to be dependent
- Board Buddies for new board members - main go to person
  - Reduce Chair burden or any one person
  - Be clear to people that when they come on board that we don't know everything and nor should we
- External Audit
  - 1:1s with the board members then set up training for the board
- Meeting Minutes
  - Need to stop sweeping things under the rug - get the information out there and be what may
  - Don't need everyone to have all the details, but need to be able to access information when needed
  - This doesn't necessarily need to be part of the retreat training, but need to address baseline expectations
- How do we build up that barn build sentiment
  - Huge investment from leaders that people bought into
  - Start-up mentality early on
  - Initial part of charter was that people gave 40 hours of work
    - Can't do this based on the state regulations as a public school
    - How can we work around this to drive greater involvement
  - Get to know families better
    - Both through building direct relationships
    - Collect information on what parents do for work as well as what they love to do
  - Drive this as part of the culture in every message that we put to the community as a whole
  - How we do something to similar to what is done by Development to show percent of families giving to annual plan, but this is similar to volunteer hours
    - Track this consistently
    - Put on a poster at the entry of the driveway rather than in the building
  - Acknowledge that COVID had an impact and use that as the point of building back up - starting from scratch - back to basics
  - Theory of Action - Montessori principal
    - Self monitor your accountability
    - "All Hands on Deck"
- Could we have board members run the professional growth days
  - Montessori is very collaboration driven
  - Board needs to model the collaborative nature
  - If not running it, could we at least be present
- Change from closed to open mindset

## C. Updates

No additional updates

### **III. 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 7:22 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,  
T. Murdy

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#### **Documents used during the meeting**

*None*

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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.