Minutes of the meeting of the Board of Education of the School District of Black River Falls on October 16, 2017 at 6:00 p.m. in the District Office Board Room.

School Board President, Mary Jo Rozmenoski, called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

Board Members Present: Mary Jo Rozmenoski, Mary Jo Radcliffe, Amy Hoffman, Scott Barton, Patty Jacobson, Laurel Meek.

Board Members Absent: Nehomah Thundercloud

Meeting commenced with the verification of public notice.

Public Comment – None

Dr. Severson and Mary Jo Rozmenoski presented Tiffany Oakes, from the Black River Memorial Hospital, with a Board Commendation. Tiffany works with our Co-op students to give interested students work experience at the hospital.

An overview of the Stop It App was given. This app is available to students in grades 4-12. It allows students to report bullying anonymously.

The Community Engagement Board Committee did not meet in October.

Mary Jo Rozmenoski moved to move agenda item 8.2 Student Senate Report to occur before agenda item 7.1 Focus on Purpose – NEXUS. Mary Jo Radcliffe seconded the motion. Motion carried 6-0.

Nolan Plaisance, Student Senate President, updated the Board on activities with the Student Senate. They currently have 34 members. They are working on improving communication throughout the school, along with revising their constitution. Their next meeting will be October 28, 2017.

Dr. Kielbasa, Mr. Steve Teeples, and four students from the NEXUS program presented information about the projects that they’ve been working on. One of the main projects has been building park benches. They presented a gift of four of these benches to the four food pantry programs that are working out of the Gebhardt School.

Laurel Meek moved to approve the employment recommendations as presented. Patty Jacobson seconded the motion. Motion carried 6-0.
The field trips that were presented for Board approval were: the eighth grade trip to Washington D.C., the High School choir and band trip to New York City, the National FFA Convention in Indianapolis, IN, the Dorian Festival in Decorah, IA, and the Journalism in Education Conference in San Francisco, CA. Mary Jo Radcliffe moved to approve the field trips as presented. Amy Hoffman seconded the motion. Motion carried 6-0.

Dr. Severson reviewed the open enrollment numbers.

Mr. Tom Chambers reviewed a draft of the Cum Laude System. This system may be an alternative to the class rank system that we currently have.

Dr. Severson shared the annual Summer School Report.

The Student Success Board Committee didn’t meet in October.

Laurel Meek moved to approve the monthly expenditures. Amy Hoffman seconded the motion. Motion carried 6-0.

The Board certified the Annual Tax Levy that will be presented at the annual meeting. The recommendation is for the tax levy to stay the same as last year.

Patty Jacobson moved to approve the Annual Meeting Agenda. Mary Jo Radcliffe seconded the motion. Motion carried 6-0.

Jeff Hensel and Kristi Pronschinske presented the Transportation Report.

Mary Jo Rozmenoski moved to approve the second readings of all of the presented policies except Policy 345.3 Promotion and Retention of Students. Mary Jo Radcliffe seconded the motion. Motion carried 6-0.

Dr. Severson explained the changes that were made to Policy 345.3 Promotion and Retention of Students. These changes bring us to our current practice. Mary Jo Radcliffe moved to approve the second reading. Laurel Meek seconded the motion. Motion carried. 6-0.

Laurel Meek moved to approve the meeting minutes from September 18, 2017. Amy Hoffman seconded the motion. Motion carried 6-0.

Dr. Severson’s District Administrator’s Report included:
- Information on the Adult Literacy Program through Friends of the Library.
- The solar panel will be re-installed in the school forest and will help to offset the electrical costs of the building.
- The state budget vetoed the provision that would allow low spending districts to increase their revenue per student incrementally until it was closer to the state average.
- Our District Food Service program was recognized in a DPI publication that featured programs from around the state. Ours received extremely high ratings.
- Monday, November 6th, there will be a flag raising ceremony at each of the schools to highlight the beginning of Native American Heritage Month.
- The November School Board meeting will be held at the District Office.
- Mr. Chad Stanley reviewed the PBIS Behavior Checklist that they’ve put into place at Forrest Street Early Learning Center. Mrs. Laura Simonson explained how the checklist works at Red Creek Elementary School.
- Mr. Tom Chambers spoke about Professional Learning Communities at the High School.
The WASB Regional Meeting will be held on October 25, 2017. Nehomah Thundercloud’s report from the Innovations in Equity Conference was reviewed.

At 7:50 p.m. Mary Jo Rozmenoski moved to adjourn into closed session pursuant to Wis. Stats. 19.85(1)(g) for the purpose of discussing potential litigation. Mary Jo Radcliffe seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken. 6 yes, 0 no.

Mary Jo Rozmenoski moved to reconvene into open session. Patty Jacobson seconded the motion. Motion carried 6-0.

Scott Barton moved to follow the recommendation to disallow both claims. Mary Jo Rozmenoski seconded the motion. Motion carried 6-0.

At 8:45 p.m. Mary Jo Radcliffe move to adjourn. Laurel Meek seconded the motion. Motion carried 6-0.

___________________________________        ____________________
Nehomah Thundercloud, Clerk                            Marti Herzberg, Recording Secretary