Minutes of meeting of the Board of Education of the School District of Black River Falls on March 20, 2017 at 6:00 p.m. in the District Office Board Room.

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

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

Board Member Absent: None

Meeting commenced with the verification of Public Notice.

Public Comment – None

Dr. Severson and Mary Jo Rozmenoski presented Mitch Wester with a Board Commendation for his continued involvement with the District. Mitch volunteers his time as a tutor for sixth grade students and also helps with mini-courses every year.

Nehomah Thundercloud moved to accept a $5,000.00 gift from The Savage Trust, a $200.00 grant from the Coulee Region Audubon Society, two marching horns donated by the BRF Music Boosters which are valued at $2,766.00, and a $579.07 gift donated by Zoetis. Laurel Meek seconded the motion. Motion carried 7-0.

The Music Department shared information on their recent activities. Paula Hardie showed a video of her High School Hand Bell Choir. Joe Phillips shared a video from the school musical, Jekyll and Hyde, and Troy Tande showed a video of his band students.

Mary Jo Radcliffe moved to approve the employment recommendations as presented. Amy Hoffman seconded the motion. Motion carried 7-0.

Dr. Severson updated the Board on the most recent Our People Committee meeting.
Jessica McNamara, the BRAGS teacher, explained the purpose of project based learning. Many of the current BRAGS students spoke about why they chose BRAGS and how they’ve improved since being involved in the program. They also presented a petition, in support of the BRAGS program, with 184 signatures on it.

Mary Jo Rozmenoski moved to postpone the High School Continuous Improvement Plan Review to the next Board meeting. Patty Jacobson seconded the motion. Motion carried 7-0.

Nehomah Thundercloud moved to approve the three Youth Options requests. Laurel Meek seconded the motion. Motion carried 7-0.

Laurel Meek shared that at the March 14 Student Success Committee meeting, they spoke about the mid-year STAR assessment information and received a Science Department update.

Mary Jo Radcliffe moved to approve the monthly expenditures as presented. Amy Hoffman seconded the motion. Motion carried 7-0.

Patty Jacobson moved to approve awarding the Forrest Street roof bid to Custofom Roofing. The bid was for $168,070.00. Nehomah Thundercloud seconded the motion. Motion carried 7-0.

Dr. Severson and Jill Collins presented the budget reduction history for the last ten years and the 2017-2018 budget development and reduction recommendations. There were many current and past BRAGS students, and their families, in attendance advocating for the Board to not eliminate the program. Nehomah Thundercloud moved to approve the budget with the removal of item 6, which was the proposal to reduce .5 FTE BRAGS salary, benefits and program supplies. Nehomah’s motion also included the removal of the reduction of the High School Tech. Coach by .25 FTE. A roll call vote was taken. Motion carried 7-0.

Amy Hoffman moved to approve the second reading of Policy 181- Rules of Order. Nehomah Thundercloud seconded the motion. Motion carried 6-0 (Scott Barton had stepped out of the room).

The Board reviewed Policy 871-handling Complaints about Instructional and Instructional Media Center Resources and Accompanying Rules and Exhibits. The Board sent it to the Policy Committee for possible changes.

The Board completed first readings of Policies 222-Recruitment and Appointment of Administrators, 223.3 Termination of Administrator’s Contract, 231.1-Assistant Principal Job
Description, 253.1-Development of Administrative Rules, 253.4-Development and Approval of Employee Handbooks, 253.5-Development and Approval of Student Handbooks, 531-Professional Staff Positions and Job Descriptions, and 224-Board-Administrator Relations.

Amy Hoffman moved to approve the meeting minutes as presented. Mary Jo Radcliffe seconded the motion. Motion carried 6-0 (Nehomah Thundercloud had stepped out of the room).

Dr. Severson’s District Administrator’s Report included:

- Miron Construction has nominated Red Creek Elementary as a top project for 2016. The school will be featured in the Daily Reporter publication.
- We were invited to the UW Madison Consortium, Lead Higher. Stephanie Brueggen attended the event.
- The District Office’s neighbor’s claim of home damage during the demolition of Third Street School has now been settled.

The Principals reviewed the activities going on at their schools.

Mary Jo Rozmenoski shared information from the WASB Day at the Capitol.

Future agenda items will include:

- An update on the Third Street site.
- Information on the Athletic Department budget for June meeting to accompany the participation numbers.

Mary Jo Rozmenoski moved to adjourn to closed session at 9:20 p.m. per Wisconsin Statutes 19.85(1) (c) for the purpose of discussing the evaluation of the Superintendent and other contracts. A roll call vote was taken and carried 7-0.

At 10:40 p.m. Mary Jo Radcliffe moved to reconvene into open session and take any necessary action as per Wisconsin Statute 19.85(2). Amy Hoffman seconded the motion. Motion carried 7-0.

Mary Jo Radcliffe moved to adjourn at 10:40 p.m. Amy Hoffman seconded the motion. Motion carried 7-0.

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Marti Herzberg, Recording Secretary                        Amy Hoffman, Clerk