

Flat River Academy Board of Directors
9481 Jordan Rd. Greenville, MI 48838
616-754-9360

Regular Meeting Agenda
Monday, July 22nd 2026, 6:30 p.m.

PROPOSED MEETING MINUTES

- I. Call to Order and Roll Call
 - A. The meeting was called to order at 6:47pm
- II. Pledge of Allegiance
- III. Approval of Agenda
 - A. The board reviewed the agenda. Under New Business, the following items were added to the agenda: Review of new board application, and Resignation of James Popma from the board
 - B. Motion to approve the amended agenda was made by Ken Miller and seconded by Jason Olvera, agreed by Eric Lamb
 - 1. Motion passed
- IV. Approval of June 10, 2026 Regular Minutes
 - A. The board reviewed the June 10 2026 proposed minutes.
 - B. Motion to approve the June 10th board minutes was made by Ken Miller and seconded by Jason Olvera, agreed by Eric Lamb
 - 1. Motion passed
- V. New Business
 - A. Resignation of James Popma from the board.
 - B. Motion to accept the resignation of James Popma was made by Jason Olvera, seconded by Ken Miller, agreed by Eric Lamb
 - 1. Motion passed
 - C. Review of board applicant Jason Jasinski
 - 1. The board asked why Jason wanted to be on the board. He stated that he would like to help the school improve and see more things being moved forward and addressed.
 - 2. The board reviewed Jason Jasinski's application
 - 3. Motion to approve Jason Jasinski's application to the board was made by Ken Miller, seconded by Eric Lamb and agreed by Jason Olvera.
 - a) Motion passed
- VI. Old Business - none
- VII. Principal's Report
 - A. Presented by Hilary Karnatz. See attached
- VIII. Teachers First Report
 - A. State of the Schools
 - 1. Presented by Stacy Hengehold from Teachers First. See attached
 - B. June 2026 Financials
 - 1. Presented by Kristen Haines from Midwest Management.
- IX. Extended public comments on non-agenda item

- X. Board Comments
 - A. Request that there be a sign in at board meetings.
- XI. Reconfirmation of Next Meeting Date: August 12, 2026 at 6:30 p.m. at Flat River Academy
 - A. Board members were not available on August 12th. Proposed new date is August 26th at 6:30.
 - B. Motion to approve the next meeting date be moved to August 26, 2026 was made by Ken Miller, seconded by Eric Lamb, agreed by Jason Olvera.
 - 1. Motion Passed
- XII. Adjournment
 - A. Motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Jason Olvera, seconded by Ken Miller, agreed by Eric Lamb.
 - B. Motion passed - 7:48pm

Signed: _____ Date: _____

Principal's report 7/22/26

Enrollment:

Currently 123 (5 new students last week)

- with 2 more applications pending and tours for 3 students scheduled tomorrow (2nd grade, 7th grade, 7th grade).

Summer recruitment efforts:

- Yard signs - need to get more out to people - ideas?
- Summer activities - slower than expected, but we did gain at least 2 students and built awareness in the community. STEM evenings have not been successful.
- Facebook ads - some things to work on, but some tweaks have developed interest in the last few days. Recommend spending more towards the end of next week until school starts when enrollment generally goes up.
- Coloring books - gave out 350 at 4h fair. Have been dropped off to a few businesses. Need to drop off more.
- Local events: 4h fair booth

New Hires:

- Art: Heather Pickel
- 4/5 ELA Social Studies: Jessica Andersen

Job shifts:

- Bonnie Sims: intervention → back to 1st grade teacher
- Gabbie Hall: 1st grade → 2nd grade
- Tara Curtis: food service assistant → recess manager and library manager
- Becca Vandenberg: substitute teacher → food service assistant

Openings:

- On call subs: need 2
- Maintenance: still need to define job role and finances for this - waiting for green light
- Reading intervention: recommend not hiring a person to replace Bonnie in intervention at this time.

Some initiatives this year:

- Moral monthly focus/SEL supported by TRAILS - assembly each month.
- PLP - personalized learning plans focused on key learning standards and progress towards those standards. Designed to provide parents with transparency and have students visually see their progress so they can be an active participant in their learning.
- Preplanned field trips for every class connected to that grade's curriculum.
- Re-energized approach to project based learning.
- Differentiated learning time - staggered time in each class where interventionists and paras "flood the room" to provide support for every student in a small group. This goes back to the way we were doing intervention (DI block) 2 years ago based on what we now know is best practice. Teachers will have a dedicated DI time and will meet with the

intervention team (including special education) to make a plan based on the needs of each class rather than a more prescribed approach. Progress monitoring for all students will be visible on their PLPs.

PTO:

- Canceled Mom2Mom sale due to lack of interest
- Purchasing birthday bags to give to every student on their birthday.
- Providing staff surprises each month to build up morale.
- Is in the process of redoing the staff lounge
- Opened up their own bank account as a separate entity.

Building repairs and furniture:

- Todd is finishing up replacement of the ceiling tiles, and removing bugs from the lights this week and then will be working on the playground to weed and do maintenance.
- We have a long list of small repairs and maintenance that need to be completed on the whiteboard in the office. Todd and Chase have been tackling these.
- Water continues to be an issue in classrooms which seem to be coming from the brick walls. There is mold in both the 1st and 3rd grade classrooms. Brenda is cleaning the carpets with a special cleaner, but unless this is fixed, the problem will likely reoccur. Water also seems to be an issue with the large windows in the library.
- Doorsweeps for the gym need to be ordered and replaced to prevent water during large storms- I think Todd can do this.
- Bleachers on the right side are not working. I will call to get an estimate this week.
- There do not seem to be any active leaks in the roof at this time.
- Purchased 8 desks and 3 office chairs at an auction for \$64.34. 5 tables will be used in the art room. I replaced teacher office chairs in the building that were falling apart with the new chairs.
- Should we tear down the large sign or fix it?
- Need to get snow plow quotes.

Teachers First
State of the School Report
JULY 2026

Teachers First (in partnership with Midwest Management Group) has partnered with the Academy Board of Directors for Full Management services at Flat River Academy. Below includes updates on the progress in recent weeks at Flat River Academy.

TEACHERS FIRST UPDATES

- This year's Teachers First Back to School Conference will be held July 27-28. We will have two tracks this year: one for instructional staff and one for school leaders. We have secured three dynamic speakers for this event and look forward to an amazing time. This year will be held at the DeVos Center in Grand Rapids, Michigan.
- The NCSI Policy meetings continue in order to finalize the first draft of the Spring 2026 policies.

Enrollment Goal and Summer Operations

- **Enrollment Goal:** 155 students for the upcoming school year.
- **Why It Matters:** Supports financial stability, program growth, and educational quality.
- **Summer Operations:** Keep the school open with summer office hours for enrollment and admissions.
- **Summer Focus:**
 - Assist prospective families.
 - Process applications.
 - Conduct campus tours.
 - Increase recruitment and outreach.
- **Shared Responsibility:** Enrollment and retention efforts are shared between Teachers First, Inc. and school leadership.
- **Teachers First, Inc.:** Provides enrollment support, marketing resources, and recruitment assistance.
- **School Leader:** Leads community outreach, family engagement, recruitment, and retention efforts.
- **Expected Result:** Improved opportunity to reach the 155-student enrollment goal and start the school year with a stable student population.

HUMAN RESOURCES

Recruiting for:

Upper Elementary
4th/5th ELA & SS Teacher
Still open recruiting for SLP

Resigned:

2nd grade teacher

Handbook updates:

Working with Hilary on requested updates for the 26-27 SY

BUSINESS/FINANCE/GRANTS

Grant Updates:

- Opportunities:
 - 27h - Round 2 - due July 20, 2026

Finance Updates:

- Due to TF, Inc. as of 6/5/2026 - **\$137.10** - as of 7/15/2026
- Preliminary audit work has been completed
- Final audit work begins August 31st

OPERATIONS

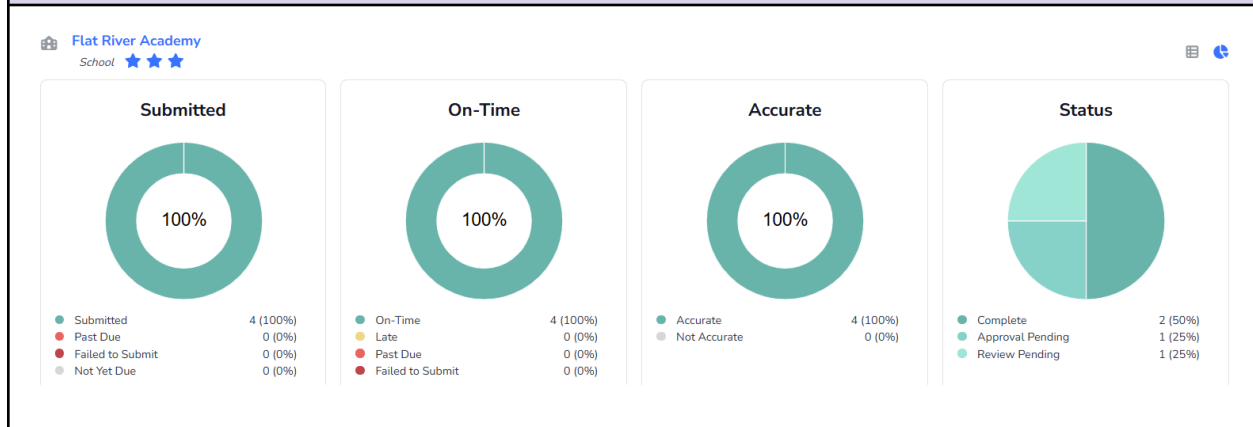
Transportation:

- Cindee Dohm provided Paul K with the June mileage totals.
- Hoekstra is identifying the reversing issue on Bus #1 and completing the Preventative Maintenance on the buses.

Facilities/Maintenance/Technology:

XIII. Paul K has reached out to his colleagues with the Michigan School Business Officials for suggestions on companies for the gym insulation replacement. He'll follow up with Hilary on this matter.

COMPLIANCE



EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMMING

Curriculum/Instruction

No updates at this time

Teachers First Team Supporting Flat River Academy

Please feel free to reach out to us as needed . . .

TF Lead for FRA for 2025-26:

- **Stacy Hengehold**, Director of School Quality
stacy@teachers-first.com
313-695-2893

- **Michelle Kyles**, Executive Director, michelle@teachers-first.com, 248-910-5869
- **Dave Patterson**, Leader of School Development & Sustainability,
dpatterson@midwest-mgt.com, 313-622-9173
- **Paul Kaliszewski**, Chief Operations Officer, paul@midwest-mgt.com
- **Ryan Marshall**, Director of IT and Gaming, ryan@midwest-mgt.com
- **Tami Phelps**, Pupil Accounting Specialist,
tami.phelps@educationalreportingsolutions.com
- **Matoya Jones**, Director of Grant Management, matoya@teachers-first.com
- **Lisa Johnson**, Director of Human Resources, lisa@midwest-mgt.com
- **Tabatha Salwach**, Payroll Specialist, tabatha@midwest-mgt.com
- **Frank Patterson**, Chief Financial Officer, frank@midwest-mgt.com
- **Kristen Haines**, Business Manager, kristen@midwest-mgt.com
- **Kerri Smith**, Chief Administrative Officer, kerri@midwest-mgt.com