

BETTENDORF COMMUNITY SCHOOL DISTRICT
BETTENDORF, IOWA

Minutes of the May 11, 2023, Regular Meeting
of the Board of Education
(pending Board approval)

1. Call to order.

The Board of Directors of the Bettendorf Community School District, in the County of Scott, State of Iowa, met in open session according to Iowa law for their regular Board meeting at the Administration Center, 3311 18th Street, Bettendorf, Iowa, on May 11, 2023. President Rebecca Eastman called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. and the Board recited the Pledge of Allegiance. Colleen Skolrood, Board Secretary, verified that the meeting notice had been posted and mailed to the media as required by law.

Members present: Directors Castro, Champion, Doerder, Eastman, Lynch, Pyevich, Smithson*
Members absent: None

Other officials present: Dr. Michelle Morse, Superintendent; Robert Beckwith, Director of Finance & Business Services; Jayme Olson, Director of Curriculum; Curt Pratt, Director of Operations; Celeste Miller, Director Communications; Maile Mejia, Director of Human Resources; Kristy Cleppe, BHS Principal; Alan Hartley, BMS Principal; Chase Uhde, MT Principal; Emily Cullison, BEA Rep; Melissa Laufenberg, BESA Representative; David Farmer, Treasurer; Dillan Tholin, Student Representative; Colleen Skolrood, Board Secretary.

Director Smithson arrived at 6:10 pm via phone. Arrived in-person at 7:41 pm.

2. Agenda Approval.

Motion by Director Champion, seconded by Director Pyevich, to approve the agenda as presented.

Ayes: 6 Directors Castro, Champion, Doerder, Eastman, Lynch, Pyevich

Nays: 0

Absent: 1 Director Smithson

Motion carried 6-0-1

3. Communication.

3.01 **Superintendent's Report.** Dr. Morse noted the passing of Curt Sisul, a valued colleague, and said our thoughts are with his family.

May is School Board Recognition Month in Iowa and Dr. Morse recognized the School Board and thanked them for serving.

Dr. Morse welcomed Director of Finance Bob Beckwith and said she is happy he is on board. She thanked Student Board Representative Dillan Tholin for his leadership and wished him all the best at Iowa State University.

Dr. Morse reported they opened negotiations with our three bargaining groups last week, BEA, BESA and BSSA. They will be meeting with BEA on May 15th to continue negotiations and are working with BESA and BSSA as well.

We had the opportunity to join other schools and businesses around the Quad Cities to celebrate seventy-two high school students in the metro area, who signed their commitment to an apprenticeship for the 2023-2024 school year. Bettendorf School District will have five students participating. One in welding and four in the EMT Program with Medic.

May is extremely busy. Last night, we had the opportunity and privilege of honoring our seniors at our Bettendorf High School Senior Awards night. Later that night, about seventy high school sophomores were inducted into the National Honor Society. The students selected Joe Rankin to give the message. Dr. Morse appreciated his inspirational message and humor. She said it was a fun evening celebrating all of our students. Dr. Morse thanked Janel Cauwels for all the time and organization to help make Senior Awards such a success.

Director of Student Services Karen Allison hosted an event with our preschool partners. They had a working meeting to look at the survey results around our Iowa quality preschool standards. They completed goal setting for next year.

Dr. Morse thanked the Bettendorf Community Schools Foundation for their continued support. They recently awarded our high school a grant for the summer reading program for incoming 9th and 10th graders in the amount of \$864.70. These funds will allow our librarian to purchase books that are on the required reading list for students so that access is not a barrier to getting the work done.

Dr. Morse thanked Director of Operations Curt Pratt for writing a grant for a state-wide entry level bus driving program. We were awarded \$10,000 and it will help us train new bus drivers. She thanked the Kranwinkles for their generous donation to the BHS girls soccer team and Jimmy Casas for his generous donation to help offset the costs of the BHS Students First Banquet.

Dr. Morse provided an update on where we are with the branding and mascot work. She gave Celeste Miller a shout out for the heavy lifting she has done around this work. They developed a standard guide for this school year using the standard graphics so that we could start having some consistency and unity across the district for all schools. In the first survey, we asked either alum or someone from our community, who might be interested in developing our new designs for our mascots, to submit artwork for consideration or reach out to Celeste. No one contacted us at that time. In the current survey, concept 3 was selected the most and concept 1 was a close second. Our next steps are to potentially resurvey and to develop a districtwide branding guide.

- 3.02 **Board Shared Communication.** Director Lynch heard four of our students in the All Iowa 8th Grade Honors Band in Des Moines and said they sounded great. He also saw many of our National History Day Representatives and their exhibits. Lastly, he noted the Middle School Musical, *Suessical Jr.* is on May 12.

Director Doerder, Director Smithson and Dr. Morse attended the IASB Summit on Student Success. Director Doerder said it was a wonderful experience. They all participated in a poverty simulation and said it was eye opening. Director Doerder said they also attended a summit on improving literacy and a seminar on student led learning.

Director Doerder thanked everyone who is involved in the end of the year activities.

Director Pyevich said there are several bids on vehicles listed on the consent agenda and they are big ticket items that he thinks deserves some discussion. Dr. Morse said Director of Operations Curt Pratt presented this last fall and it just took some time to order the vehicles.

Vice-President Champion recognized BMS Parent Link.

Director Castro saw a segment on PNB Aviation Club on the news and thinks it is great for our students. He said there is an Elite Dog Strength and Conditioning Award that was given for the winter season and Isaiah Dunn and Riley Freking were the recipients.

- 3.03 **President's Statement.** Any member of the audience may address the board with comments about items of interest or concern. Citizens wishing to address the board during public comment must complete the *Public Input at Board Meetings* form (BP 213.1) in its entirety prior to the start of the meeting, or at a minimum, prior to speaking. Please state your name and please limit your comments to three minutes. Iowa law prohibits discussing specific employees or their job performance. We caution those making public comments that what they say could violate the rights of others under the law of defamation or invasion of privacy, and if they're unsure of the legal effect of their remarks they should seek independent advice prior to their comments.

Kevin Cullum addressed the board regarding the high school graduation location.

Kristy Owens addressed the board regarding lack of communication and lack of availability for requested academic resources over the last year at Herbert Hoover Elementary.

- 3.04 **BEA Report.** Emily Cullison reported that they held their biyearly dinner at Happy Joe's which was the highest attended Happy Joe's night. May 4th they began negotiations and are looking forward to getting back to the table. Last night, Ms. Cullison had the privilege of presenting, on behalf of the BEA, a scholarship in the amount of \$1,000 to Victoria Neece. The BEA has held meetings as they prepare for the end of the year.
- 3.05 **BESA Report.** Melissa Laufenberg said BESA began negotiations this past Monday and they are moving steadily through the process. They will postpone their final meeting of the year pending the vote and ratification of the contract for the 2023-2024 school year. She encouraged the community to take in a concert, game, match or any of the other activities on the calendar before the end of the school year. We have many great things to celebrate. They are looking forward to working with the district on professional development throughout the year.
- 3.06 **BSSA Report.** There was no one in attendance.
- 3.07 **Student Board Representatives Report.** Dillan Tholin gave his last report as Student Board Representative. He congratulated the 2023-2024 Student Council members. He welcomed the new 2023-2024 Advisors. He gave an update on upcoming student council events.
- 3.08 **BHS Jazz Award.** Congratulations to BHS Jazz 1 for receiving a Division 1 "Superior" rating at the Iowa High School Music Association (IHSMA) State Jazz Festival. A division "I" Superior is the highest awarded rating.

3.09 **BMS National History Day Competition.** Congratulations to the 33 students listed below who competed in the State of Iowa National History Day contest at the Iowa Events Center in Des Moines on Monday, April 24, and especially the Bettendorf Middle School students who qualified for the National competition in Washington, D.C. from June 12 to June 15, 2023. Thank you to Emily Pendleton, Deb Temperly, Kelly Turner, Kaitlin Burke, Sue Owen, Connie Jeschke, Kym Daurer, Molly Mitola, and Deb Crocker for guiding our students on their projects and the National History Day competitions.

Junior Group Exhibit

- **National Qualifier** - Hadley Appel, Addison Woelfel, Kailin Stiles-Pena (8th grade)
“The Apgar Score: Advancing the Frontier of Neonatal Medicine”
- **National Qualifier** - Kaylie Husser, Gabrielle Wischmann (8th Grade)
“Margaret Sanger’s Planned Parenthood: A Frontier in Women’s Healthcare”
- **State Finalist** - Skye Jungwirth, Addison Faust (8th Grade)
“Clara Barton: Founder of the American Red Cross Opens Humanitarian Frontiers”

Junior Individual Documentary

- **National Qualifier** - Lucy Wolf (8th grade)
“The Burning River: How the Cuyahoga River Fires Fueled the Creation of the Environmental Protection Agency and Advanced the Frontier of Environmental Justice”
- **National Alternate** - Ishika Motwani (8th grade)
“Lights Out! Revolutionizing Consumerism Through Planned Obsolescence”
- **State Qualifier** - Katelyn Kingma (6th grade)
“Fat Man” and “Little Boy”: The Nuclear Warfare Frontier

Junior Individual Exhibit

- **National Qualifier** - Jackson Neighbor (7th grade)
“The Wright Flyer: How Two Brothers Turned the Sky Into a Frontier of Human Enterprise”
- **State Finalist** - Ada Walsh (8th grade)
“Edward Curtis: How One Artist’s Controversial Photographs Preserved the Native American Culture”
- **State Qualifier** - Hadley James (7th grade)
“The Mayflower Compact: The Maiden Voyage of Self-Government in Colonial America”

Junior Individual Website

- **National Qualifier and Special State Award for Iowa History** - Stephen Schwartz (8th grade)
“The Ponseti Method: How the University of Iowa’s Dr. Ignacio Ponseti Revolutionized Clubfoot Treatment”
- **State Finalist** - Kiara Motwani (6th grade)
“Move Over DNA! mRNA: the New Frontier in Modern Medicine”
- **State Qualifier** - Greta Huffaker (6th grade)
“The Radium Girls: Frontiers in Workplace Safety”

Junior Group Website

- **State Qualifier** - Isaac McDermott, Haley Agosta, Cameron Howard
“Navajo Code Talkers: How a Tribe’s Unwritten Language Transformed Secret Communications on the Battlefield”
- **State Qualifier** - Nora Burns, Kenley Jaeger (7th grade)
“Making a Way for the Blind: The Seeing Eye”

- **State Qualifier** - Sophia Lynch, Elinor Haberman (8th grade)
"Mary Shelley's Monster: The Genesis of Science Fiction"

Junior Historical Paper

- **National Qualifier** - Truman Brooks (8th grade)
"Los Alamos: The Manhattan Project's Secret City and Origin of the World's First Atomic Bomb"
- **National Alternate** - Preston Eystad (8th grade)
"James K. Polk and the Manifest Destiny: Expanding America's Frontiers to Resurrect Slavery"
- **State Qualifier** - Audrey Winkler (6th grade)
"Dolly the Sheep: Controversy Over the First Cloned Mammal"

Junior Individual Performance

- **State Qualifier** - Anna Fiedler (8th grade)
"Suzanne Spaak, Righteous Among the Nations: How a Belgian Socialite Refused to Sit Idle"

Junior Group Performance

- **State Finalist** - Luna Krauss, Olivia McGivern
"The Harvey Girls: Western Frontier Women Who Made Hospitality A Reality"
- **State Qualifier** - Lilah Rasche, Ella Ripslinger
"Undercover on Blackwell's Island: How Nellie Bly Led the Frontier of Investigative Journalism"

Senior Group Exhibit

- **State Qualifier** - Logan Russell, Matthew Gardner (10th grade)
"The Transcontinental Railroad: A Frontier in Logistics and Economic Advancement"

3.10 **BHS French Award.** Four Bettendorf High School students earned honors for high achievement on The National French Contest / Le Grand Concours.

- Level 2E - Destiny Borland placed 3rd, Piper Fredricksen placed 2nd, and Makenna Miller placed 1st.
- Level 3E - Baxter Schadt placed 1st.

Level E indicates that the student has completed that level of French, but at the time of the Concours had not been in French class due to block scheduling.

Numerous other students placed in the top 20 for Iowa at various levels. Congratulations to all participants!

3.11 **BHS Tennis MAC Championship.** Congratulations to Jack Reilly for finishing in first place in third position at the MAC Championship and to the team for finishing in second place.

3.12 **BHS Music Awards.** Congratulations to the Bettendorf High School Music department for an excellent showing at Iowa High School Music Association (IHSMA) large group festival over the weekend.

Here are the ratings:

Wind Ensemble - Division I superior

Symphonic Band - Division II excellent

Concert Choir - Division I superior

Treble Choir - Division II excellent

Choral - Division III good

Bett Singers - Division III good

Chamber Orchestra - Division I superior

Full Orchestra - Division I superior
String Orchestra - Division II excellent

4. Consent Agenda.

Motion by Director Champion, seconded by Director Lynch, to approve the consent agenda as printed.

Ayes: 7 Directors Champion, Doerder, Eastman, Lynch, Pyevich, Smithson, Castro

Nays: 0

Motion carried 7-0

- 4.01 Approval of April 20, 2023 Regular Board Meeting, and May 3, 2023 Disciplinary Hearing Minutes
- 4.02 Approval of May 11, 2023 Bills Recommended for Payment
- 4.03 Approval of Administrative Recommendations - Personnel
- Administrative Resignation
Rachel Cuppy/NA/Interim Principal/Effective 6/30/23
- Administrative Transfer
Allison Holland/BMS/From Dean of Students to Associate Principal/1.0 FTE/\$96,600 annual salary (22-23 salary schedule)/261 day contract/ Replacing Trampus Budde/
Effective 7/1/23
- Certified Resignation
Haley Bridwell/PN/4th Grade/Effective 6/30/23
Ellen Craig/BMS/Art/Effective 6/30/23
Holly Dobbins/BMS/Language Arts/Effective 6/30/23
Trisha Latimer/HH/Special Education/Effective 6/30/23
Grace Shepherd/NA/5th Grade/Effective 6/30/23
Candyce Wondercheck/BMS/Science/Effective 6/30/23
- Certified Transfer
Tanya Gilmore/BMS/From Science to CTE/1.0 FTE/New position/ Effective 2023-24 school year
- Certified Approval to Hire
Rachel Cuppy/BHS/Special Education/1.0 FTE/MA+30,15/\$74,029 (2022-23 salary schedule)/Replacing Edith Perion/Effective 2023-24 school year
Jerad Hoaglin/BHS/Counselor/1.0 FTE/MA,2/\$48,885 (2022-23 salary schedule)/Pending licensure and verification/New position/Effective 2023- 24 school year
Angela Kunz/TE/Math/1.0 FTE/BA,2/\$42,415 (2022-23 salary schedule)/ Pending licensure/Replacing Lynne Cropper/Effective 2023-24 school year
Lauren Petersen/District/Talented and Gifted/1.0 FTE/MA,6/\$55,590 (2022-23 salary schedule)/Pending licensure and verification/Replacing Samantha Rottinghaus/Effective 2023-24 school year
Erin Schlotfeldt/BHS/Special Education/1.0 FTE/MA,10/\$62,295(2022- 23 salary schedule)/Pending verification/Replacing Beth Thompson/ Effective 2023-24 school year
Kaitlyn Sparbel/BMS/CTE/1.0 FTE/BA,2/\$42,415 (2022-23 salary schedule)/New position/Effective 2023-24 school year
- Schedule D Resignation
Peter Bruecken/BHS/Planetarium Assistant Director/Effective 5/4/23
Ellen Craig/BMS/Team Leader-Allied Arts/Effective 6/30/23
Ellen Craig/BMS/Club Sponsor-Art/Effective 6/30/23
Robbie Furne/BHS/Head Sophomore Football Coach/Effective 5/9/23

Breanna Newton/BHS/Freshman-JV Softball Coach/Effective 5/8/23

Grace Shepherd/NA/Student Council Sponsor/Effective 6/30/23

Taylor Vanderham/BMS/Assistant 8th Grade Girls Basketball Coach /Effective 4/24/23

Greg Wischmann/BHS/Boys Golf Coach/Effective 5/5/23

Schedule D Approval to Hire

Katia Clymer/BHS/Co-sponsor Goldusters Dance Team/\$2,551 (22-23 stipend)/Replacing Jennifer Stienen/Effective 5/12/23

Reagan Guy/BHS/Assistant Cheerleading Coach/\$2,347 (22-23 stipend) /Replacing Tanya Gilmore/Effective 5/12/23

Kailee Hamilton/BHS/Head Cheerleading Coach/\$5,029 (22-23 stipend) /Replacing Cassy Rice-Byrd/Effective 5/12/23

Ryan Webber/BHS/Head Varsity Girls Basketball Coach/\$8,381 (22-23 stipend)/Replacing Brian Tritt/Effective 2023-24 school year

- 4.04 2023 Box Truck Bid Approval - Lindquist Ford's Bid of \$63,254.06 for (1) box truck with lift.
- 4.05 2023 20 Passenger Mini-Bus Bid Approval - Master's Transportation's Bid of \$97,900 for (1) 20 Passenger Mini-Bus.
- 4.06 2023 12+2 Wheelchair Mini-Bus Bid Approval - Master's Transportation's Bid of \$105,900 for (1) 12+2 Wheelchair Lift Bus.
- 4.07 2023 Landscape Tractor Bid Approval - TNT Landscaping's Bid of \$42,465 for Ventrac
- 4.08 4520Z Landscape Tractor and attachments.
- 4.09 2023 Amplify Agreement
- 4.10 City of Bettendorf 28E Facility Agreement
- 4.11 Approval of the 2023-2024 Student Teaching Agreements -
- Luther College
 - Augustana College
 - Western Governors University
 - University of Northern Iowa
 - Morningside University
- 4.12 Elementary Managed Print Lease
- 4.13 Entry Level Driver Training Program Grant MOU - Memorandum of Understanding for the Entry-Level Driver Training Program Grant awarded to Bettendorf CSD by the Iowa Workforce Development to help train new bus drivers attain their CDL
- 4.14 BHS Girls Soccer Team Donation to the BHS Girls Soccer Team for \$500.00 from: Conrad & Susan Kranwinkle, 1179 Yocum St, Pasadena, CA 91103
- 4.15 BHS Students First Banquet Donation of \$500 for the BHS Students First Banquet from Jimmy Casas, 22 Alabaster Run, Hanover, PA 17331
- 4.16 Open Enrollment Requests (Info Only). The following students have been approved for open enrollment.
- Elementary Into Bettendorf 2023/2024
Davenport - 7
- Out of Bettendorf 2023/2024
Davenport - 2
- Open Enrollment Request - denial of open enrollment request
- Into Bettendorf
Pleasant Valley - 1

5. Informational/Action.

5.01 **Mark Twain Building Action Plan Presentation and Learning Project.** Mark Twain teachers and second grade students shared their biography reports with the board. Principal Chad Uhde gave an update on the school's building action plan and work.

5.02 **2023/2024 Health, Dental and Vision Insurance Rates.** Dr. Morse commended the finance and human resource teams. Through some small adjustments, they were able to reduce the increase for medical coverage from about 3% last year to 2% for medical for 2023-2024. There will be no increase in rates for dental and vision insurance.

Motion by Director Champion, seconded by Director Doerder, to approve the proposed health, dental and vision insurance rates for the 2023/2024 plan year as presented.

Ayes: 7 Directors Doerder, Eastman, Lynch, Pyevich, Smithson, Castro, Champion
Nays: 0
Motion carried 7-0

5.03 **First and Final Read of Policies.** IASB has recommended that district's adopt regulation 705.4R1. 70.5.5 is a requirement.

- 705.4R1 - New policy - Expenditures for a Public Purpose – Use of Public Funds Policy - Based on IASB policy recommendations.
- 705.5 - New policy - Federal Grant Procurement Policy - Required for Iowa Workforce Development Entry Level Driver Training Grant (ELDT).

Motion by Director Champion, seconded by Director Smithson, to approve the policies listed above as presented.

Ayes: 7 Directors Eastman, Lynch, Pyevich, Smithson, Castro, Champion, Doerder
Nays: 0
Motion carried 7-0

5.04 **March Financials.** Dr. Morse noted that last year open enrollment reimbursements from our neighboring districts were received in March and this year they were received in April. From a financial standpoint, March was a fairly stable month.

Motion by Director Champion, seconded by Director Doerder, to approve the March Financials as presented.

Ayes: 7 Directors Lynch, Pyevich, Smithson, Castro, Champion, Doerder, Eastman
Nays: 0
Motion carried 7-0

5.05 **DRAFT 2023-2024 Board Meeting Dates.** There has been continued interest in exploring Wednesdays. Dr. Morse presented two options. Option #1 is to move board meetings to Wednesdays starting in July. Option #2 is to keep board meetings on Thursdays through December 2023 and move to Wednesdays in January 2024. After some discussion, board members agreed to option #2.

Motion by Director Champion, seconded by Director Lynch, to approve option #2 for 2023-2024 Board Meeting dates.

Ayes: 7 Directors Castro, Champion, Doerder, Eastman, Lynch, Pyevich, Smithson
Nays: 0
Motion carried 7-0

6. Future Events and Informational Items.

- May 25, 6:00 pm - Board Meeting
- May 28, 1:00 pm - BHS Class of 2023 Graduation
- May 30, 6:00 pm - Board Workshop
- June 8, 6:00 pm - Board Meeting
- June 22, 6:00 pm - Board Meeting

7. **Exempt Session - Negotiations.** Motion by Director Champion, seconded by Director Lynch, to enter into exempt session, as provided in the Code of Iowa section 20.17(3) and 20.9 for the purpose of discussing strategies for negotiations.

Ayes: 7 Directors Smithson, Castro, Champion, Doerder, Eastman, Lynch, Pyevich
Nays: 0
Motion carried 7-0

Directors entered into an exempt session at 8:36 pm. Directors returned to an open session at 9:16 pm.

8. **Closed Session - Litigation.** Motion by Director , seconded by Director , to move into closed session pursuant to Iowa Code 21.5(1)(c), which allows for a closed session to discuss strategy with counsel in matters that are presently in litigation or where litigation is imminent where its disclosure would be likely to prejudice or disadvantage the position of the governmental body in that litigation.

Ayes: 7 Directors Castro, Champion, Doerder, Eastman, Lynch, Pyevich, Smithson
Nays: 0
Motion carried 7-0

Directors went into a closed session at 9:17 pm. Directors returned to an open session at 9:28 pm.

9. **Closed Session - Superintendent Evaluation.** Motion by Director Lynch, seconded by Director Doerder, to enter into closed session in accordance with Iowa Code section 21.5(1)(i), for the purpose of evaluating the professional competency of individuals whose appointment, hiring, performance or discharge are being considered, when necessary to prevent needless and irreparable injury to those individuals' reputations and those individuals request a closed session.

Ayes: 7 Directors Champion, Doerder, Eastman, Lynch, Pyevich, Smithson, Castro
Nays: 0
Motion carried 7-0

Directors went into a closed session at 9:28 pm. Directors returned to an open session at 10:28 pm.

Action item – Superintendent's Agreement.

Motion by Director Doerder, seconded by Director Smithson, to approve the addendum to the

Superintendent's agreement with a three-year extension.

Ayes: 7 Directors Doerder, Eastman, Lynch, Pyevich, Smithson, Castro, Champion

Nays: 0

Motion carried 7-0

10. Adjournment.

Director Castro motioned to adjourn the meeting at 10:28 pm.

Rebecca Eastman, President

ATTEST:

Colleen Skolrood, Secretary