

BETTENDORF COMMUNITY SCHOOL DISTRICT  
**BETTENDORF, IOWA**

Unofficial Minutes of the September 23, 2021, Regular Meeting  
of the Board of Education  
(pending Board approval)

1. Public Hearing.

A Public Hearing on Instructional Support Levy opened at 6:31 p.m. There were no comments and the hearing closed at 6:32 p.m.

2. 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 Bettendorf High School Performing Arts Center, 3311 18th Street, Bettendorf, Iowa, on September 23, 2021. President Rebecca Eastman called the meeting to order at 6:32 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, Holland, Lynch, Pyevich

Members absent: None

Other officials present: Dr. Michelle Morse, Superintendent; Dr. Michael Gillotti, Associate Superintendent; Brietta Collier, Director of Finance; Dave Hlas, Director of Special Services; Jill Matherly, Director of Human Resources; Jayme Olson, NA Principal; Brian Walthart, PN Principal; Karen Allison, HH Principal; David Farmer, Treasurer; Melissa Laufenberg, BESA Rep; Tamanna Kapoor, Student Rep; Colleen Skolrood, Board Secretary.

3. Agenda Approval.

Motion by Director Champion, seconded by Director Doerder, to approve the agenda as modified. Consent Agenda 4.08 and 4.09 were moved ahead of 4.01, President's Statement.

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

Nays: 0

Motion carried 7-0

4. Communication.

4.01 **President's Statement.** Any member of the audience may address the board with comments about items of interest or concern. Please state your name and address and please limit your comments to three minutes. Iowa law prohibits discussing specific employees or their job performance. Please refer to policy 213.E1 - Public Input At Board Meetings.

- Janiece Goldsberry addressed the board regarding mask mandates.
- Kelly Smith addressed the board regarding a mask policy.
- Austin Taylor addressed the board regarding a mask mandate.
- Melissa Zumdomo addressed the board regarding mask mandates.
- Stacey Willey addressed the board regarding masks.
- Rob Albert addressed the board regarding a mask mandate.
- Sabrina Chandler addressed the board regarding masks.

- Michelle Hayes addressed the board on parents having the choice if they want their kids to wear a mask or not.
- Jessica Gilmore addressed the board on not having a mask mandate.
- Donna Albert addressed the board on letting parents be in control of what is required for their children with this very controversial subject.
- Ashley Bryant addressed the board regarding mask mandates.
- David Jimenez addressed the board regarding mask policy.
- Vickie Smith addressed the board regarding a mask mandate.

4.02 **Board Communication.** Director Castro thanked all the parents for coming to speak and said he appreciates them being involved in our schools.

Director Champion attended the Hall of Honor Inductees ceremony. He said it was a fine example of people that come from this district. President Eastman echoed that same sentiment.

Director Holland participated in the homecoming parade. He thanked everyone involved in making it happen.

Director Doerder talked about board policies pertaining to the Board of Directors role and responsibilities and seeking legal counsel.

Director Pyevich congratulated the six students who were recognized by the National Merit Scholarship Program.

4.03 **Superintendent's Report.** Dr. Morse thanked Student Council Advisors Christina Burroughs and Katie Mahoney and student council for the countless hours they put in for homecoming and during homecoming week to make it such a successful week. She thanked the community for coming out during the parade. She said it was a lot of fun to see the community come together for the benefit of our students. Dr. Morse gave a shout out to Larry Bush, district custodial supervisor. She said he never hesitates to step in and she appreciates all of his efforts to make sure our schools stay clean.

Dr. Morse attended Tuesday's city council meeting where our Mayor Bob Gallagher and council members recognized five of our athletes who were all state champions last year. She said it was nice to see them honored in our community.

She had the privilege of spending time with our Hall of Honor inductees. She said they are an amazing group of men and women and she was inspired to be with them.

She is looking forward to Elementary Curriculum night on Monday, September 27 at each of our elementary sites. They will be featuring and highlighting our new math program.

Dr. Morse was able to visit Hoover and Bettendorf Middle this week. She had a great time seeing our teachers and students in action, but also had some opportunities to speak in-depth with some teachers during her visit on what is going well and what we need to focus on.

This morning, Dr. Morse spoke at the Quad City Rotary and shared what we are doing in

our district as well as where we are going.

Dr. Morse provided a short update on an incident at the homecoming dance. They are continuing to investigate and following up on leads as they come in. We annually review our emergency operating procedures, but any time there is an event, we spend time reflecting on what went well and what areas we need to make revisions in. After the event, we recognize and will continue to refine our training practices and responses not only during the academic day, but also outside the academic day. Dr. Morse wanted to let families know that we take this very seriously and they welcome any and all input in terms of leads.

Dr. Morse has received questions on two items on the consent agenda tonight, the MOU's for Restorative Justice and Social Emotional Screener. Restorative Justice is an opportunity for us to continue to provide support to help our staff and students to become more effective at how we prevent conflict before it leads to more physical interactions. This partnership is just another tool to provide resources that are intended to be more proactive in our work to teach students how to avoid and resolve conflict among their peers. As part of Iowa's learning framework, all schools are required to have layers of support and the social emotional screener is just one tool we can use. All schools in Scott County use the same screener.

Lastly, she spoke about our invitation to join the Urban Education Network. There are seventeen districts in the state that are part of this network. There are specific criteria that you must meet in order to be in the network. Bettendorf School District now meets that criteria and was asked to join this group. It offers many, many benefits to our staff and leadership team.

Dr. Morse thanked everyone for coming tonight to share their thoughts and concerns.

- 4.04 **BEA Report.** Emily Cullison reported on behalf of Mary Heeringa. The next BEA meeting is Wednesday, September 29. They appreciate the time Dr. Morse and Jill Matherly have spent following up on any questions or concerns that have come up during our BEA meeting. Last night, a panel of BEA, BESA and BSSA members had the opportunity to interview all of our school board candidates and they will be announcing their recommendations tomorrow on their Facebook page. Yesterday, Mary Heeringa sent an email to all of the board members regarding BEA's support for a mask mandate in our schools.
- 4.05 **BESA Report.** Melissa Laufenberg reported BESA has had a busy month and is getting ready to hold their second meeting. They will be holding elections for Vice President in October. Last night, BESA participated in board candidate interviews for the first time and were happy to be able to take part in that process. She thanked Dr. Morse and Jill Matherly for taking the time to resolve some issues that came up during their meeting. Ms. Laufenberg said the issue of masks is a difficult one and there are no answers that will make everyone happy. She said it is the most divisive issue she has ever experienced as an BCSD employee and parent of students in this district. Regardless of what the board's decision is this evening, they look forward to working with the district and community to keep our students, staff and community healthy.

- 4.06 **Student Board Representative Report.** Tamanna Kapoor reported Homecoming went well and was very successful. Attendance for the parade was high and she was happy to see the community come out after such a crazy year. They sold over 1,200 tickets to the dance.

Student Council members will be going to Des Moines on October 24 and 25 to honor Christina Burroughs for Student Council Advisor of the Year as well as learning from keynote speakers on how to be better leaders in our community and high school.

Hunger Drive starts next week. They are trying to get everyone involved.

- 4.07 **Approval of the Donations** in the amount of \$500.00 from Scott and Elizabeth Tinsman, 660 Riverview Terrace Bettendorf, IA. 52722 and \$500.00 from James and Melissa Von Maur, 235 Fernwood Ave, Davenport, IA. 52803-3606 for the Goldusters.
- 4.08 **Heather Wiley Participates in Iowa STEM Externship at QC Metallurgical Lab.** BHS Science Teacher Heather Wiley was one of 70 participants in the 2021 Iowa STEM Teacher Externships program. She invested over 200 hours of professional growth at QC Metallurgical Lab.
- 4.09 **Introducing McGarrett - Herbert Hoover Therapy Dog.** Principal Karen Allison and 5th grade teacher Courtney Torie introduced McGarrett, the new Herbert Hoover Elementary therapy dog.
- 4.10 **National Merit Scholarship Program.** Six Bettendorf High School students were recently recognized by the National Merit Scholarship Program.  
Commended: Carolyn Kress  
Semifinalists: Matthew Dorang, Aidan Hamner, Preston Martens, Noah Raso, and Nicholas Theuerkauf.  
The students are all seniors at Bettendorf High School except Matthew Dorang, who graduated a year early and is currently attending Iowa State.
- 4.11 **Piasecki to be Named the Iowa World Language Association Educator of the Year.** Congratulations to Bettendorf High School French Teacher Sheila Piasecki for being selected as the Iowa World Language Association (IWLA) Educator of the Year. The state award is given to the individual who exemplifies the best in teaching at his/her particular level and who has provided outstanding service to the profession in the state of Iowa, in addition to the IWLA as an organization.  
The award will be presented to Piasecki at the Iowa World Language Association Virtual Conference on Friday, October 1. Piasecki began her career teaching French at Bettendorf High School in 2009. She has been on staff for 13 years.

5. Consent Agenda.

Motion by Director Holland, seconded by Director Doerder, to approve the consent agenda as printed.

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

Nays: 0

Motion carried 7-0

- 5.01 Approval of August 26, 2021 Regular Board Meeting Minutes  
5.02 Approval of September 23, 2021 Bills Recommended for Payment  
5.03 Approval of Administrative Recommendations - Personnel

<u>Certified Lane Change</u>	<u>From</u>	<u>New</u>	<u>Increase</u>
Brenna Clifton	BA+30,6 to	MA,6	\$3,428
Kymerly Daurer	BA,11 to	BA+15,11	\$1,633
Bryan Dietsch	MA+15,6 to	MA+30,6	\$1,632
Jennifer Dietz	BA+15,12 to	BA+30,13	\$2,285
Angela Farmer	MA,10 to	MA+15,10	\$1,633
Molly Giese	MA,11 to	MA+15,11	\$1,632
Jordan Knoll	BA+15,4 to	MA,4	\$4,865
Beth Laughbaum	BA+30,13 to	MA,14	\$7,118
Nick Myers	BA+30,4 to	MA,4	\$3,232
Rhonda Nelson	BA,3 to	BA+15,3	\$1,633
Emily Pendleton	BA,2 to	BA+15,2	\$1,632
Rachel Rankin	MA,13 to	MA+15,13	\$1,632
Samantha Rottinghaus	BA+15,3 to	MA,3	\$4,767
Roxanne Saldivar	ND,7 to	BA,7	\$11,492
Aaron Sass	BA,2 to	BA+15,2	\$1,632
Ashley Sotelo-Ashby	MA,5 to	MA+15,5	\$1,632
Adrianna Stegmaier	BA+30,7 to	MA,7	\$3,527

Schedule D Approval to Hire

**Kelsy Benson**/PN/Student Council Sponsor/\$653/Replacing Jocelyn Kyte/ Effective 2021-2022 school year

**Scott Berg**/MT/5th Grade Intra-Extramurals/\$4,963/Resuming previous position/Effective 2021-2022 school year

**Carol Harris-Leingang**/GW/Student Council Sponsor/\$653/Resuming previous position/ Effective 2021-2022 school year

**Carol Harris-Leingang**/District/Lead Nurse/\$653/Splitting duties with Roxanne Schmertmann/Effective 2021-2022 school year

**Lora Hayes**/BMS/Head 8th Grade Volleyball Coach/\$2,939/Replacing Tina Matheson/Effective 2021-2022 school year

**Mickey Hines**/GW/5th Grade Intra-Extramurals/From .50 to 1.0/From \$2,481 to \$4,963/Full stipend/Replacing Drew Sass/Effective 2021-2022 school year **Richard**

**Hoyt**/BHS/Freshman Boys Basketball Coach/\$4,898/Pending coaching authorization/Replacing Bobby Sturms/Effective 2021-2022 school year **Katherine Meyer**/BHS/Best Buddies Club Sponsor/\$1,307/Replacing Jason Hamann/Effective 2021-2022 school year

**Desiree Rowland**/BHS/Science Club Sponsor/\$1,307/Replacing Amanda Bohnert/Effective 2021-2022 school year

**Chris Saito**/BHS/Team Leader- Fine Arts/\$2,808/Replacing Mike Dynes/Effective 2021-2022 school year

**Roxanne Schmertmann**/District/Lead Nurse/\$653/Splitting duties with Carol Harris-Leingang/Effective 2021-2022 school year Andrew Taylor/BMS/Robotics Sponsor/\$3,738/Replacing Rebecca Carton-Hon/Effective 2021-2022 school year

5.04 Scott County Kids Flexible Funding Agreement

5.05 MOU Universal Social Emotional Screener for 2021-2022

5.06 MOU Restorative Justice

5.07 Special Education Service Delivery Plan

5.08 Urban Education Network Associate Membership

5.09 Morningside University - Clinical Teaching Agreement

5.10 Culver-Stockton MOU - Student Teaching Agreement

Open Enrollment Request - denial of the open enrollment requests into Bettendorf.

- 5.11 Into Bettendorf  
5 - from Davenport
- 5.12 Open Enrollment Requests (Info Only)  
Into Bettendorf for 21/22  
1 - from Pleasant Valley  
1 - from Davenport  
1 - from North Scott  
Into Bettendorf for 21/22  
1 - from Pleasant Valley  
1 - from Davenport  
1 - from North Scott

6. Informational/Actions.

- 6.01 **Facial Coverings.** Director Lynch proposed a mask mandate for K-5 that would be in place only until a vaccine was available. There was no second. There was no administration recommendation or discussion among directors. Masks will remain optional for students and staff.
- 6.02 **Elementary Parent Curriculum Night/Illustrative Math Overview.** Instructional Coaches Scott Berg and Hannah Dillon gave an overview of our Illustrative Math (IM) program. IM ensures a research-based and highly rated guaranteed and viable curriculum. It was co-founded by William McCallum, a lead author of the Common Core. IM encourages all students to see themselves as mathematicians.

The purposes of Illustrative Math:

- Sparks discussion, perseverance, and enjoyment of Math
- Intentional Lesson Design that promotes mathematical growth
- Provides support for English Learners (EL) and students in need of additional support
- Focus on developing learning communities

Dr. Morse thanked all of our coaches for the work they have done in helping our teachers have a successful start this year and feel supported in implementing a new K-5 math curriculum. Director Castro thanked Curriculum Director Jillian Dotson for all of her hard work on this.

- 6.03 **Amplify Science: Adoption.** S.T.E.A.M. Curriculum and Professional Development Teacher Leader Chris Like gave an overview on the process of choosing a new curriculum, the data used to support the decision and how this will be implemented.

The teacher committee researched six science curriculums and Amplify Science was the only one that met expectations. With Amplify Science, students take on the role of a scientist, are presented with a problem, and perform investigations and do research. Kindergarten, 1st Grade, and 5th Grade are already using Amplify. Next year, 2nd, 3rd, and 4th Grade will begin using Amplify.

Kindergarten teacher Amy Runde shared some of the things she has been doing in her classroom. Her class is trying to figure out why there are no more monarch caterpillars after the field was turned into a garden. She said it is nice to see so much partner work.

Mr. Like reported the district was awarded a Grant from the National Educational Environment Foundation, an offshoot of the EPA. The project is funded by Arconic. The only stipulations are working with another school district and taking the kids outside. Bettendorf will team up with PV. The money will be used for the 7th and 8th grade projects to buy materials, pay for substitute teachers and transportation. The 8th Grade Project is First Tee and the 7th Grade Project is Prairie Restoration. Bettendorf will be working on the projects in the fall and Pleasant Valley will be working on them in the spring.

- 6.04 **Instructional Support Levy.** This is to continue the current level of services and to fund the ongoing programs of the district for a period of five years commencing with the fiscal year ending June 30, 2024.

Motion by Director Holland, seconded as Director Lynch, to approve the Instructional Support Levy as presented.

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

Nays: 0

Motion carried 7-0

- 6.05 **Interfund Borrowing Resolution.** This allows the district to borrow up to three million dollars from district funds listed below for purposes of making up temporary deficiencies and/or shortfalls in any district fund for the purpose of paying the operating costs and other authorized expenditures of the district:

- General Fund
- Management Fund
- Regular Physical Plant and Equipment Levy Fund,
- Voter approved Physical Plant and Equipment Levy Fund
- Secure an Advanced Vision for Education Tax, (SAVE) Fund

All such district inter-funds loans shall be repaid before the end of the district fiscal year, June 30, 2022.

Motion by Director Holland, seconded as Director Pyevich, to approve the 2021-2022 Interfund Borrowing Resolution.

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

Nays: 0

Motion carried 7-0

- 6.06 **Approval of August Financials.** Director of Finance Brie Collier presented the monthly financial reports for August 2021. Through August, General fund revenue totaled \$200,223 and expenses totaled \$2,613,476. The fund balance in the General Fund at August 31, 2021 was \$9,693,919. Also presented were Management, PPEL, Debt Service, SAVE, Food Service, Insurance, Fiduciary, and Activity Funds reports.

The following variances were noted: General Fund Revenues are down over the same period last year. A majority of this comes from state and federal revenues. Although we

have a negative amount in both state and federal revenues, these are both the result of prior year receivables booked but funds were not received until September. This will correct itself in the September statements. The decrease in local revenue comes largely from a decrease in taxes. We did not have deferred tax revenue in FY22 like we did in FY21.

General Fund expenditures are up over the same period last year. Salaries are up largely due to summer programming. We utilized a portion of ESSER dollars to increase summer school offerings. We will see a permanent increase in salaries for FY22 as we added an Associate Superintendent position and temporary positions utilizing ESSER dollars. The increase in purchased services comes from a timing in software purchases as well as the addition of Edgenuity for the 21/22 school year. The increase in supplies is largely attributable to the purchase of Amplify science curriculum.

Activity Fund revenues are down over the same period last year. This is largely from the liability we are carrying forward with our cancelled music trip from the Spring of 2020. Once the company credit is used, our revenues will move back into line with prior year trends.

The increased expenses in both the Sales Tax and Debt Service funds relate to the scheduled debt service payments in July and January every year. The July 1 payment was the first payment that included payment of principal on our outstanding revenue bonds.

Revenues and expenditures are down in the Food Service Fund compared to last August. We did not serve as many meals this summer as we did last summer, during the initial COVID summer feeding program. This summer, curbside and delivery meals had much lower volume. This directly translates to lower revenues and fewer expenses for both salaries and supplies. We are still participating in the free student meal program and receiving the higher reimbursement rate for the 21/22 school year.

Internal Service Fund claims are down over the same period last year. This is a good trend as we are trying to improve the health of our internal service fund through managing our insurance costs and increasing employee education related to benefits utilization and potential employee cost savings.

Our overall cash position is up from the same period last year. Any lasting trends in other funds are difficult to establish at this point in the year. All cash balances will be closely monitored throughout the year.

Motion by Director Holland, seconded as Director Lynch, to approve the August Financials as presented.

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

Nays: 0

Motion carried 7-0

- 6.07 **Approval of Modified Allowable Growth & Supplemental Aid.** A district may request allowable growth and supplemental aid for a negative special education balance for the current school year. The supplemental aid payment will be calculated by the Department of Management after all special education balances have been finalized.

Motion by Director Holland, seconded as Director Lynch, to approve the Modified Allowable Growth request of \$587,663.78 for the FY21 Special Education Deficit.

Ayes: 7 Directors Pyevich, Castro, Champion, Doerder, Eastman, Holland, Lynch  
Nays: 0

Motion carried 7-0

- 6.08 **FY 21 Certified Annual Report & Special Education Report.** The CAR (Certified Annual Report) is required to be filed annually with the State of Iowa Department of Education. This is a direct upload of our Chart of Accounts and provides transparency among and between districts regarding the overall financial position of a district. Each fund is accounted for and reported on within the CAR. Districts have a set of standard account codes to use to ensure all items are reported the same across districts.

Motion by Director Holland, seconded as Director Lynch, to approve the FYE 21 Certified Annual Report and Special Education Report as presented.

Ayes: 7 Directors Castro, Champion, Doerder, Eastman, Holland, Lynch, Pyevich  
Nays: 0

Motion carried 7-0

7. Future Events and Informational Items.

- Wednesday, October 6, 2021 MBAEA Administrator/Board Banquet, 6:00 pm
- Thursday, October 14, 2021, Board Candidate Reception, 5:00-5:45 pm
- Thursday, October 14, 2021, Board Candidate Forum, 6:00-7:15 pm
- Thursday, October 14, 2021, BOE meeting, 7:30 pm
- Thursday, October 28, 2021, BOE meeting, 6:00 pm
- Thursday, November 11, 2021, BOE meeting, 6:00 pm
- Thursday, December 16, 2021 BOE meeting, 6:00 pm

8. Adjournment.

Director Castro motioned to adjourn the meeting at 9:20 p.m.

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Rebecca Eastman, President

ATTEST:

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Colleen Skolrood, Secretary