

BETTENDORF COMMUNITY SCHOOL DISTRICT  
**BETTENDORF, IOWA**

Minutes of the February 10, 2022, 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 February 10, 2022. President Rebecca Eastman called the meeting to order at 6:30 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; Dr. Michael Gillotti, Associate Superintendent; Brietta Collier, Director of Finance; Jill Matherly, Director of Human Resources; Jayme Olson, Interim Director of Curriculum Instruction and Assessment; Curt Pratt, Director of Operations; Mary Heeringa, BEA Representative; Tamanna Kapoor, Student Rep; David Farmer, Treasurer; Colleen Skolrood, Board Secretary.

2. Agenda Approval.

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

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

Nays: 0

Motion carried 7-0

3. Communication.

3.01 **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.

Melissa Zumdomo spoke to the board on an 8th grade book assignment.

Analicia Gomes spoke to the board on an 8th grade book assignment.

3.02 **Board Communication.** Director Castro congratulated Ella Schmidt on winning her third state championship. She is the first female in the history of Bettendorf to have done that. She signed a letter of intent to wrestle at University of Iowa.

Director Castro noted that we will be approving the resignation of some outstanding teachers in our district under the consent agenda tonight. He said they will be deeply missed. As teachers leave, Director Castro hopes that we try to find out the good things that they have experienced and the not so good things so we can correct those things.

3.03 **Superintendent's Report.** Dr. Morse had the privilege of attending many of our athletic and co-curricular activities over the last couple of weeks. She said it has been a lot of fun to see our students out there and involved.

Dr. Morse noted that we will be approving early retirement tonight for nine outstanding educators, both certified and classified in our district. While we are excited for them to move on, we are very sad to see them go. We appreciate their service and years of dedication to our students and families in our district. The district has already begun interviewing for those positions.

Dr. Morse attended Rhythm on the Riverbend last weekend. She said it was awesome. She said our fine arts department continues to excel and thanked all those who were involved in the event.

Dr. Morse attended the Robotics Tournament that was held at Pleasant Valley. It was a qualifying tournament to advance to state. Bettendorf placed in the top three.

She thanked those who attended the State of the District and said it was a great night. She thanked the jazz band for providing entertainment and the culinary students for providing refreshments. She noted there was a recent article in the Quad City Times on the Culinary program in Bettendorf. Dr. Morse said Amanda Thibodeaux does amazing work and we are very lucky to have her in that arena.

Consultants from Hanover met with the board and the district leadership team regarding the strategic plan.

Another initiative and work that the district is doing is around some professional learning that our Pre-K through second grade teachers, academic interventionists at the elementary level and special education teachers will have an opportunity to participate in. The professional learning is Language Essentials for Teachers (LETRS) program. Dr. Morse said we are excited that over 50% of the teachers in those groups will be engaging in this professional learning opportunity over the next year. Rhonda Nelson, first grade teacher at Mark Twain and Ryan King, instructional coach who serves Mark Twain and Herbert Hoover, are trainers and facilitators.

Spencer Mesick, high school science teacher, and some of his students were highlighted in a set of Iowa PBS videos about phenomena. Dr. Morse said what an honor for Spencer, his students and our high school.

Ashley Hicks, who works with the United Way, will be at our February 24 board meeting to share the Read United Initiative. Dr. Morse had the honor to speak with Rene Gellerman, President & CEO of United Way of the Quad Cities, along with several other superintendents and the Quad City Times Editorial Board. They talked about the importance of building solid reading skills and foundations in the early years to ensure that students are proficient in reading by the time they are in third grade.

The high school is conducting parent/teacher conferences this evening. As a mom of a high school student and as a superintendent, Dr. Morse thanked the high school teachers for the work that they are doing to connect with our families and to build the relationships between school and home.

- 3.04 **Director of Finance Report.** Brie Collier had the opportunity to participate in a couple of professional learning experiences. Dr. Morse and Brie attended an ISFIS budget workshop today.

Tomorrow is the deadline to set SSA and the state legislature has adjourned for the week. The two proposals are 2.5% and 2.25%. A 2.5% SSA would be 0.72% in new money and 2.25% would be 0.48% in new money for our district. Inflation has increased 7.5% in this last year, the highest since 1982. Please contact our local legislators and let them know how important SSA money is for all students and educators in order to provide a quality education.

Ms. Collier thanked Sara Rock, Colleen Schwarz, Kelli Carr, Courtney Broderick, Theresa Miguel, and Jana Jackson for all the work they put into the audit.

- 3.05 **BEA Report.** Mary Heeringa reported they had their monthly BEA meeting and Round Table meeting in the past two weeks. The next BEA meeting is on February 23. Ms. Heeringa had the opportunity to join Jill Matherly at the National Educators Shortage Summit. They want to be able to attract and retain education staff. We need our federal and state legislators to provide substantial ongoing and increasing funding to school districts. Our state legislators are deciding what the increase may be in funding for next year. She encouraged everyone to contact our local legislators and encourage them to increase state supplemental aid by at least 5%.

Ms. Heeringa recognized the retiring staff members that are listed on tonight's consent agenda. She thanked them for their many years of service and wished them well in their retirement.

- 3.06 **BESA Report.** Melissa Laufenberg was not in attendance.

- 3.07 **Student Board Representative Report.** Tamanna Kapoor gave an update on the latest happenings at the high school.

- 3.08 **Bettendorf Girls Wrestling.** Congratulations to the Bettendorf Girls Wrestling Team as they competed in the Girls State Wrestling tournament on January 22, 2022 and placed 4th out of 135 teams.

Placing for the Bulldogs:

110lbs Isabelle Johnson placed 8th

130lbs Lexy Petersen placed 8th

105lbs Hannah Beintema placed 5th

125lbs Ella Schmit was the State Champion

Ella became the second girl in the history of Iowa Girls Wrestling to become a 3x State Champion.

- 3.09 **Bettendorf Boys Wrestling.** Congratulations to the BHS Boys Wrestling Team for winning the Mississippi Athletic Conference January 29, 2022 with six individual champions, one runner-up and four third-place finishes. Bettendorf accumulated 256.5 points to claim the league tournament title for the first time in three years.

Individual Champions

106 Tim Koester

113 Steele Diercks

126 Jace Luna

132 Tycho Carmichael

145 Dustin Bohren

195 Bradley Hill

Runner Up

152 Elijah Mendoza

3rd Place Finishers

120 Garrett Evans

138 Jordan Roberts

160 Ethan Forker

170 DeAvione Parker

- 3.10 **BHS Surround Sound.** Congratulations to Surround Sound, Bettendorf's Varsity Show Choir, for placing 1st runner up at Muscatine's River City Showcase on January 15th. A special shoutout to Ava Rowland and Tyler Koch for taking home the best female and best male soloist awards at the competition!
- 3.11 **BHS Robotics.** The BHS Robotics team competed in the Super Qualifier Event on February 5th and advanced to the State Competition in Iowa City, which will be held on February 18th and 19th.

4. Consent Agenda.

Motion by Director Champion, seconded by Director Pyevich, 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 January 20, 2022 Regular Board Meeting Minutes

4.02 Approval of February 10, 2022 Bills Recommended for Payment

4.03 Approval of Administrative Recommendations - Personnel

Administrative Early Retirement

**Caroline Olson**/MT/Principal/Effective 6/30/22

Certified Early Retirement

**Susan Adams**/BMS/Special Education/Effective 6/30/22

**Michelle Bruty**/BMS/Counselor/Effective 6/30/22

**Daniel Drexler**/BHS/Industrial Technology/Effective 6/30/22

**Erin Flynn**/GW/4th Grade/Effective 6/30/22

**Ann Geneva**/HH/Kindergarten/Effective 6/30/22

**Katherine McAndrews**/MT/Academic Interventionist/Effective 6/30/22

**Siobhan Wood**/HH/Instructional Coach/Effective 6/30/22

Classified Early Retirement

**Patricia Creen**/BMS/Para Educator/Effective 6/30/22

**Sharon Woodworth**/BHS/Para Educator/Effective 6/30/22

Certified Resignations

**Christopher Adams**/BHS/Special Education/Effective 6/30/22

**Rachel Anderson**/BHS/Math/Effective 6/30/22

**Annette Zelnio**/BHS/Special Education/Effective 6/30/22

Schedule D Resignations

**Christopher Adams**/BHS/Assistant Varsity Cross Country Coach /Effective 6/30/22

**Christopher Adams**/BHS/Assistant Varsity Girls Track Coach/Effective 6/30/22

**Susan Adams**/BMS/Team Leader-Special Education/Effective 6/30/22

**Beth Douglas-Hafner**/BMS/Assistant 7th and 8th Grade Girls Track Coach /Effective 1/31/22

**Daniel Drexler**/BHS/Club Sponsor-Robotics/Effective 6/30/22  
**Daniel Drexler**/BHS/Team Leader-Industrial Technology/Effective 6/30/22  
**Erin Flynn**/BHS/Head Varsity Girls Track Coach/Effective 6/30/22  
**Erin Flynn**/BHS/Assistant Varsity Girls Track Coach/Effective 6/30/22  
**Erin Flynn**/BHS/Head Varsity Girls Cross Country Coach/Effective 6/30/22  
**Roxanne Schmertmann**/District/Head Nurse/Effective 1/27/22

Schedule D Approval to Hire

**Donna Carlson**/District/Head Nurse/\$408/Replacing Roxanne Schmertmann/Effective 2/11/22

**Emily Henneman**/BHS/Lunchroom Supervision/\$743-prorated to start date/Effective 1/18/22

4.04 **Zach Paustian**/BHS/Head Freshman Baseball Coach/\$4,049/Replacing Everett Hamner/Effective 2/11/22

Open Enrollment Requests (Info Only)

Out of Bettendorf 21/22

4.05 1 - Pleasant Valley

**Approval of Donation for BHS Fine Arts Boosters** - approval of a \$1000.00 donation provided to BHS Fine Arts Boosters from an anonymous donor.

5. Informational/Actions.

5.01 **2021 ISASP & Conditions for Learning Survey Data Presentation.** Dr. Gillotti and Jayme Olson gave an update on ISASP that was given last spring as well as our conditions for learning data. These two measures are part of what make up our Iowa School Performance profile that was recently released.

Given the disruption over the last two years, our students, based on the data, have shown remarkable resilience and our teachers and support staff have done an amazing job of adjusting to all the shifts in the type of instruction that was needed to be done to ensure that our instruction was moving forward and that our students continued to learn.

Some key takeaways from Conditions from Learning Survey data:

- Across student groups we have seen an increase in how physically safe students feel at school
- Student-Student relationships continue to increase across student groups
- Across all building levels and students groups, we need to continue to work on Adult-Student relationships
- We need to build on the growth in 2021 in Boundaries and Expectations

5.02 **First and Final Read of Policies.** Brie Collier gave an update on the following board policies:

**705.1: Purchasing - Bidding** - updated language to remove Public Improvement dollar amounts. This helps the policy remain “evergreen” if the law changes. Added language to clarify how quotes/bids are handled if only one is received and how professional services are treated. This aligns with IASB sample language.

**705.1R1: Purchasing - Bidding** - language in this regulation has been strengthened and required language has been added to better reflect the legal restrictions for the use of federal funds in transactions with a contractor or contractors.

**705.1R2: Using Federal Funds in Procurement Contracts** - new policy required by

the Department of Homeland Security for districts to be able to receive federal emergency management funds. The language in this regulation is excerpted directly from the Code of Federal Regulations and is part of IASB sample policy language.

**705.2: Purchasing on Behalf of Employees** - deleted. Rescinded per IASB based on Auditor of State determination of Public Purpose. Districts should not purchase items on behalf of employees.

**705.3: Payment for Goods and Services** - no changes.

**705.4: Expenditures for Public Purpose** - minor wording updates to include more of IASB's recommended policy language.

Motion by Director Lynch, seconded as Director Doerder, to approve the following board policies as presented.

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

Nays: 0

Motion carried 7-0

- 5.03 **FY21 Audit.** Brie Collier reported the district received an unmodified, or "clean" opinion. Federal funds were audited and no deficiencies were found. She reviewed the highlights of the audit.

Motion by Director Champion, seconded as Director Lynch, to approve the FY21 Audit.

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

Nays: 0

Motion carried 7-0

- 5.04 **Budget Guarantee Resolution.** The budget guarantee is a funding mechanism that uses property taxes to aid schools when supplemental state aid does not keep up with decreased enrollment. The district does not have to have a budget guarantee this year, but it is a best practice to pass it every year in case something catastrophic happens.

Motion by Director Lynch, seconded as Director Champion, that the Board of Directors of Bettendorf Community School District, will levy property taxes for fiscal year 2022-2023 for the regular program budget adjustment as allowed under section 257.14, Code of Iowa.

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

Nays: 0

Motion carried 7-0

- 5.05 **2022-2023 School Calendar.** Dr. Morse shared two draft calendars with the board. The calendar committee looked at the results of a survey that was sent out and then went back to buildings to get additional input. One recommendation was to have balanced quarters, which is important due to the block schedule at the high school.

Draft A closely mirrors the 2021-2022 calendar. There are some variations in the quarters and quarters traditionally end at the end of a week. Draft A-1 is an attempt to get as close to balanced quarters as possible.

The calendar committee will continue to work to finalize a calendar with the goal of bringing a calendar to the board for consideration and approval at the February 24 board meeting.

5.06 **2022-2023 Board of Education Dates.** Dr. Morse shared the proposed board dates for 2022-2023. She noted the board meeting in November will be on a Monday instead of a Thursday due to the holiday and IASB Conference. The rest of the dates will be on a Thursday. It was also noted that two of the board meetings will start at 6:30 pm instead of 6:00 pm due to parent/teacher conferences at the high school.

6. Future Events and Informational Items.

- Thursday, February 24, 2022, BOE meeting, 6:00 pm
- Monday, February 28, 2022, Board Workshop 6:00 pm
- Thursday, March 10, 2022, BOE meeting, 6:00 pm
- Thursday, March 31, 2022, BOE meeting, 6:00 pm

7. Adjournment.

Director Castro motioned to adjourn the meeting at 8:49 pm.

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Rebecca Eastman, President

ATTEST:

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Colleen Skolrood, Secretary