

BETTENDORF COMMUNITY SCHOOL DISTRICT  
**BETTENDORF, IOWA**

Unofficial Minutes of the February 16, 2021, 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 16, 2021. 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, Holland, Lynch, Pyevich

Members absent: None

Other officials present: Dr. Michelle Morse, Superintendent; Brietta Collier, Director of Finance; Jill Matherly, Director of Human Resources; Celeste Miller, Director of Communications; Sean McGinn, Director of Technology; Curt Pratt, Director of Operations; Jayme Olson, NA Principal; David Farmer, Treasurer; Mary Heeringa, BEA Representative; Melissa Laufenberg, BESA Representative; Colleen Skolrood, Board Secretary.

2. Approve the Agenda.

Motion by Director Holland, seconded by Director Castro, to approve the agenda as presented.

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

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.

There were no comments.

3.02 **Board Shared Communication.** Director Castro congratulated a female wrestler from Bettendorf who qualified to go to the state wrestling tournament.

Director Champion said he is glad to see the great majority of kids back in school. He said parents need to be patient during drop-off and pickup.

Director Holland wanted to recognize kids back in school. He said if parents are looking to reduce congestion, carpooling is an option.

Director Doerder thanked online teachers for the great things they have done in the 100% online program and are continuing to do. She is really looking forward to the in-school

part.

President Eastman said she was super appreciative of all the middle school staff that stood outside in the cold today ushering parents.

- 3.03 **Superintendent's Report.** Dr. Morse said she was excited to have all of our students back in today. She said she cannot echo enough to please leave early so everyone arrives safely. She thanked the entire district team. They have spent countless hours planning every detail of a successful return. She received a lot of correspondence thanking us for the asynchronous learning day on Friday. It really helped get all those final details done so they felt ready to come back and be successful.

On March 2<sup>nd</sup> is our vote for our Revenue Purpose Statement. Dr. Morse had the opportunity along with other superintendents in the area to share the Great River Uniserve Board what the Revenue Purpose Statement is and why it is so important to districts.

- 3.04 **Director of Finance Report.** Brie Collier said SSA is set at 2.4% and will likely pass. There are still additional items being finalized. Just a note that the legislature is supposed to set SSA thirty days after the governor's budget recommendation, which was on January 12, thirty-five days ago.

Ms. Collier will keep the board updated on our health insurance renewal. They are also working through our work comp and property and casualty insurance renewals. EMC Safety Group, which we are a part of for our property and casualty insurance, are seeing 15-20% increases. Those renewal premiums come out of the Management fund.

Ms. Collier submitted an application today to the Eastern Iowa Mental Health Region for the round 4 grant funding Cares dollars. It is a little over a \$165,000 that we are asking for.

Finally, regarding the upcoming vote for the Revenue Purpose Statement, the last day to request absentee ballots is February 19.

- 3.05 **BEA Report.** Mary Heeringa reported they held their monthly BEA meeting on February 3rd and Round Table last Tuesday. She noted the first virtual day due to weather was held on February 4. Things seemed to go well and they were pleased with participation.

We welcomed back students today and the buildings felt very busy. She said staff is working tirelessly to provide a comfortable and safe environment. She noted the students did a great job wearing masks, socially distancing when possible and learning new procedures.

Over the past two weeks, staff members were able to receive the first dose of the COVID vaccine through the Scott County Health Department and we cannot thank them enough for working with the district to get this done.

- 3.06 **BESA Report.** Melissa Laufenberg said traffic for both drop off and pickup was a lot busier than what any of our parents are used to and our high school students are definitely not used to the busier parking lots. She said it was really great to see the kids

today. She noted it was definitely louder and little more hectic, but overall things went well at all levels. She thanked the district that we will continue to mandate masks during the school day and at events.

- 3.07 **Student Board Representative's Report.** Emma Teach e-mailed the following statement: On behalf of student council, we would like to extend a warm thank you for all of the teachers and staff of the district for the seamless transition to all in-person learning!

We are holding a virtual High School Leadership Conference tomorrow. This will have participants from 4 schools in our area. Our council will facilitate conversation about staying connected with school during the pandemic. They can e-mail me if they'd like the link to come. It is 1-2:30.

Sam Barnes was selected as Southeast District Officer at the state level for student council. He will be working with one other student to organize and conference. Hunger Drive officially started today for us and we will be fundraising over the next three weeks. Community service week was successful and we were able to donate money and supplies to a local animal shelter.

Along with all of those exciting things, wrestling is headed up to state tomorrow morning and we will cheer loudly for them.

- 3.08 **BHS Earns Superior Rating at State Jazz Festival.** Congratulations to Mike Dynes and the BHS Jazz I for earning a Division I Superior Rating at the State Jazz Festival. The IHSMA State Jazz Festival is sponsored by the Iowa High School Music Association. Schools from across the State are adjudicated by a panel of three judges who provide oral and written comments, as well as a clinic session following the performance. Performances are given a rating based on the execution of various musical criteria. Division I - Superior is the highest rating able to be awarded by the judging panel. Bettendorf Jazz I is comprises 20 BHS students in grades 9-12.
- 3.09 **FBLA Placed at the Virtual Regional Leadership Conference.** Congratulations to the following FBLA members on their placements at the Virtual Regional Leadership Conference.  
McKenzie Guyton: 1st place Hospitality and Event Management  
McKenzie Guyton: 4th place Job Interview  
Andrea Koehler: 1st place Accounting I  
Carolyn Kress: 1st place Organizational Leadership  
Tamanna Sandal: 2nd place Job Interview  
Isabella Hoffmann & Rory Spooner: 1st place Marketing  
Norah Dunn, Emma Kerr, Tiffany Le: 1st place Public Service Announcement
- 3.10 **East Iowa District Congress Tournament.** Congratulations to Noah Rantilla for his performance at this weekend's East Iowa District Congress tournament. Noah finished in 2nd Place in the Senate, which qualifies Noah to attend the National Speech and Debate Tournament this June. Congratulations and good luck!
- 3.11 **SEIBA Honor Band - All State Music Ensemble.** Congratulations to the following students for being accepted to the SEIBA Honor Band:  
Katie Roseman - flute  
Karen Williams - clarinet  
Gianna Schwartz - clarinet

Kaelee Wolf - french horn  
Michael Farmer - euphonium  
Alex Berkenbosch - percussion

Congratulations to the following students for being accepted to the Iowa All State Music Ensembles:

Eric Newton - piano  
Kaelee Wolf - trumpet, band  
Ethan Shepherd - bass, orchestra  
Emma Cleveland - viola, orchestra  
Jack Cockayne, choir  
Havyn Fish, choir  
Tyler Koch, choir  
Ava Rowland, choir  
Katelyn Skillet, choir

Each year, students from across the state audition to be selected for various elite level honor music ensembles. The Iowa All State Ensembles and SEIBA Honor Band are two such events that accept a select group of students as the "best of the best". These events are sponsored by the state level music associations and draw several hundred students auditioning for a select few available spots.

This year, the audition process for these events was held virtually. Students submitted a video of their performance and were adjudicated by a panel of judges who evaluated their musical skill to choose recipients of this top honor.

4. Consent Agenda.

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

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

Nays: 0

Motion carried 7-0

4.01 Approval of February 1, 2021 Regular Board Meeting Minutes

4.02 Approval of February 16, 2021 Bills Recommended for Payment

4.03 Approval of Administrative Recommendations – Personnel

Certified Resignation

**Kelly Ager**/BHS/Social Studies/Effective 6/30/21

**Perry Bentsen**/BMS/Special Education/Effective 6/30/21

Schedule D Resignation

**Tina Matheson**/BMS/7thGrade Girls Assistant Basketball Coach/Effective 6/30/21

**Tina Matheson**/BMS/8thGrade Head Volleyball Coach/Effective 6/30/21

4.04 Approval of tuition application for a 7th grade student coming from Rock Island, IL for the 2021-2022 school year.

FOR INFORMATION ONLY. The following students have been approved for open enrollment.

Into Bettendorf for 20/21

3 - from Pleasant Valley

Into Bettendorf for 21/22

- 1 - from North Scott
- 7 - from Pleasant Valley

Out of Bettendorf for 21/22

- 3 - Iowa Connections Academy
- 8 - Pleasant Valley

5. Informational/Action Items.

- 5.01 **January Financials.** Brie Collier presented the monthly financial reports for January 2021. Through January, General fund revenue totaled \$24,155,410 and expenses totaled \$23,760,242. The fund balance in the General Fund at January 31, 2021 was \$12,299,505. Also presented were Management, PPEL, Debt Service, Nutrition, and Activity Funds reports.

The following variances were noted: The increase in “Other Objects” in Activity Fund expenditures incorporates the parent refunds from the Spring 2020 cancelled New York Trip. Claims have started to increase in the Internal Service Fund. Revenues and expenditures will be monitored as delayed procedures due to COVID closures continue to be scheduled.

Tuition/Transportation revenue will increase in February as the first semester bills for Open Enrollment and Special Education services are processed. Earnings on Investments are down compared to expected revenues. COVID has affected interest rates and investing opportunities. Earnings revenue will increase beginning in March as our tiered CDs begin to mature.

A majority of the improved cash position comes from the PPEL, Debt Service and Insurance Funds. Both increases and decreases in individual fund cash positions have been discussed in prior monthly statements. Our trends remain the same in terms of decreased revenue in Activities, Management, SAVE bond proceeds and Food Service as well as decreased expenditures in the SAVE, PPEL and Insurance funds.

Motion by Director Holland, seconded by Director Pyevich, to approve the January 2021 financials as presented.

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

Nays: 0

Motion carried 7-0

- 5.02 **Fiscal 2022 PPEL Projects and Long Range Facility Planning Update.**

Director of Technology Sean McGinn reviewed the information technology projects for fiscal year 2022. Some of these projects include replacing iPads, purchasing new chromebooks, cases and carts, and server upgrades. Director of Operations Curt Pratt gave an overview of the budgeted operational projects. These projects include routine maintenance, replacing busses, roof repairs, HVAC/plumbing/electrical, security cameras and interior door access control. The total proposed PPEL is \$2,724,250.

Motion by Director Holland, seconded by Director Lynch, to approve the proposed

2021/2022 PPEL budget and long-range facilities planning documents.

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

Nays: 0

Motion carried 7-0

- 5.03 **First and Final Read of Policies.** The board completed the required first and final reading of the following board policies:

Minor changes to board policies:

- 501.1: Resident Students
- 501.2: Nonresident Students
- 501.5 School Attendance Areas (No IASB)

Deleted board policies:

- 501.2R1: Nonresident Students Regulation (No IASB)
- 501.2E1: Nonresident Students Tuition Application (No IASB)
- 501.2E2: Nonresident Students Tuition Payment Schedule
- 501.5R1 School Attendance Areas (No IASB)
- 501.5E1 School Attendance Areas
- 501.5E2 School Attendance Areas (No IASB)

No change to board policy:

- 501.4 Entrance – Admissions – Evidence of Age

Motion by Director Holland, seconded by Director Castro, to approve the policies listed above as presented.

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

Nays: 0

Motion carried 7-0

- 5.04 **Strategic Planning.** Strategic planning requires a deep dive into historical data, a collaborative effort between district and building-level administrators, stakeholders to assess current and historical performance, and a plan committed to equity. Hanover Research strategic planning toolkit provides information on how districts can focus action on the most important levers for improving performance, align all district stakeholders on a clear path forward, guide allocation of the district's limited resources (financial, human capital, and others), and bring a greater degree of coherence between the district leadership and the governance body (school board).

The Letter of Agreement runs from February 22, 2021 through June 30, 2022. Total cost is \$93,350 (16 months of service). \$23,350 is due on February 22, 2021 and \$70,000 on July 1, 2021.

There was some concern regarding the cost and that Hanover is not a local firm. Dr. Morse said there are not very many regionally that do this kind of work.

Motion by Director Holland, seconded by Director Doerder, to approve Approve Hanover Research to partner with BCSD to engage in a comprehensive analysis of the District, and

develop a customized strategic plan that includes: key levers for improving performance, align all district stakeholders on a clear path forward, guide allocation of the district's limited resources, and bring a greater degree of coherence between the district leadership and the governance body (school board).

Ayes: 6 Directors Lynch, Champion, Castro, Doerder, Eastman, Holland  
Nays: 1 Director Pyevich  
Motion carried 6-1

6. Future Events and Informational Items.

- February 22, 2021, Board Workshop, 6:00 pm
- March 1, 2021, BOE meeting, 6:00 pm
- March 22, 2021, BOE meeting, 6:00 pm
- April 5, 2021, BOE meeting, 6:00 pm

7. Adjournment.

Director Castro motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:58 p.m.

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Rebecca Eastman, President

ATTEST:

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Colleen Skolrood, Secretary