

BETTENDORF COMMUNITY SCHOOL DISTRICT  
**BETTENDORF, IOWA**

Unofficial Minutes of the October 5, 2020, 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 Bettendorf Community School District Administration Center, 3311 18th Street, Bettendorf, Iowa, on October 5, 2020. President Adam Holland 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; Curt Pratt, Director of Operations; Jillian Dotson, Director of Curriculum Instruction and Assessment; Sean McGinn, Director of Technology; Jennifer Like, Instructional Technology Coordinator; Jayme Olson, NA Principal; Lisa Reid, BMS Principal; David Farmer, Treasurer; Mary Heeringa, BEA Representative; Ethan Geifman, Student Representative; Colleen Skolrood, Board Secretary.

2. Approve the Agenda.

Motion by Director Lynch, seconded by Director Pyevich, to approve the agenda as modified. Board Policy 406.1 was removed from Informational/Action Items 5.04.

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.

**Andi Proksch**, 1712 Central Ave., Bettendorf, highlighted her experience with the online academy to date. She said the teachers and staff have gone above and beyond, but expressed frustration with some aspects of online learning.

**Christina Graham**, 1437 Timberline Dr., Bettendorf, spoke about the challenges with online learning.

**Stephanie Bauswell**, 1204 14<sup>th</sup> St., Bettendorf, spoke on the online learning model and the struggles parents and students are experiencing.

**Laura Engels**, 1747 Prairie Vista Dr., Bettendorf, spoke about Pediatric Autoimmune Neuropsychiatric Disorders Associated with Streptococcal Infections (PANDAS), Level I, Special Education, and the effect of hybrid learning on her daughter's social-emotional health while dealing with this disease.

**Chris and Chuck Soncarty**, 4 Estate Court, Bettendorf, emailed a statement to be read during the meeting. They said although it may be too late to scrap this platform for something worthwhile, we would ask that the Board strongly reconsider continuing online learning with it. We have such talented teachers in the BCSD—surely there's a better way to utilize them for the benefit of ALL the BCSD students. It cannot be more difficult and costly to zoom from a class held at school than to pay for an ineffective system like Edgenuity

**Perry Bentsen**, BMS Special Education Teacher, noted the hybrid system is working and said now is not the time to change course.

**Emily Cullison**, 113 Girard St., Port Byron, addressed the board on hybrid learning and said it is working to keep all of us safe.

**Kory Esbaum**, Neil Armstrong Kindergarten Teacher, e-mailed her comments to be read during the meeting. She said when we look at the overall responsibility of a school district, I can bring all things down to two main things. 1. To keep students safe. 2. To educate students. Our current Hybrid model is meeting both of those responsibilities. I encourage you to continue the Hybrid model through at least the second quarter.

- 3.02 **Board Shared Communication.** Director Castro said we had a great Board Work Session last Wednesday.

Director Pyevich noted several parents talked about online and said he is not saying online is wrong, but maybe the program is not the right fit.

- 3.03 **Superintendent's Report.** Dr. Morse acknowledged all the teachers in Bettendorf and across our AEA on World Teacher Day. She said without them, we could not do any of this. Later tonight, we will be having a presentation on the online learning program, but she wanted to thank those who led the work to gather input and information in our online focus groups. She thanked Scott Schalk, Herbert Hoover Counselor; Jayme Olson, NA Principal; Jillian Dotson, Director of Curriculum Instruction & Assessment; Lorelei Andedo, BMS Associate Principal; and Kevin Skillet, BHS Associate Principal and all of the teachers that support the online learning program. She acknowledged there is work to be done.

- 3.04 **Director of Finance Report.** Brie Collier had nothing to report.

- 3.05 **BEA Report.** Mary Heeringa reported the BEA will meet on Wednesday for their October meeting and next Tuesday for Round Table. She has had the opportunity to meet with Dr. Morse and elementary teachers over the last several weeks. They had positive things to say about the current hybrid model as well as things that could be improved upon going forward. The overall theme from the meetings is that hybrid has had challenges, but it is the safest option for students and staff. The numbers in Scott County

continue to rise and the numbers are higher now than when the district made the decision to go to the hybrid model in August. The BEA is strongly recommending that the entire district stay in the hybrid model for 2<sup>nd</sup> Quarter.

- 3.06 **Student Representative Report.** Ethan Geifman reported Student Council hosted a Fill A Truck Event. They raised over \$1,400 which will be donated to the Food Bank. Student Council partnered with National Honor Society to host a Blood Drive. The junior class will be hosting a Chick-fil-A event to help raise money for prom so every student can get in free. The SEL (Social Emotional Learning) Group is partnering with Student Council to create student mentors. Student Council will also be hosting Pride Times to help with stress relief and organization.
- 3.07 **BCSD Outreach & Community Partners.** The Outreach Program is deeply grateful for the continued support of the Bettendorf Faith Leaders, led by Pastor Tom Carver of Asbury United Methodist Church, for putting the “community” in Bettendorf Community School District. Thank you, thank you, thank you!

4. Consent Agenda.

Motion by Director Pyevich, 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 September 21, 2020 Regular Board Meeting Minutes and Approval of September 23, 2020 Special Board Meeting Minutes.
- 4.02 Approval of October 5, 2020 Bills Recommended for Payment
- 4.03 Approval of Administrative Recommendations – Personnel
- Classified Retirement  
**Walt Powell**/BMS/Custodian/Effective 10/30/20
- Classified Resignation  
**Margaret Laupp**/MT/Paraeducator/Effective 10/02/20  
**Rebecca Woods**/BHS/Paraeducator/Effective 10/02/20
- Classified Letter of Assignment Modification  
**Alexandra Bolin**/BMS/Paraeducator/Same rate of pay/5.75 to 7.0 hours per day/Replacing Kris Tieso/Effective 10/06/20
- Certified Transfer  
**Nicole Whitehair**/From GW to BMS/From 5<sup>th</sup> Grade to 6<sup>th</sup>/8<sup>th</sup> Grade Science/1.0 FTE/Replacing unfilled Language Arts position vacated by Kaitlin Burke/Effective 2020-2021 school year
- Schedule D Approval to Hire  
**Shannon Clayton**/BMS/Lunchroom Supervision/\$1,433/Replacing Claire Steffen/Effective 2020-2021 school year  
**Rachael Dierickx**/BMS/Lunchroom Supervision/\$1,433/Replacing Rod Moeller/Effective 2020-2021 school year  
**Zach Neuerburg**/BMS/Lunchroom Supervision/\$1,433/Replacing Ellen Jelinske/Effective 2020-2021 school year  
**Sheala Wentink**/BMS/Lunchroom Supervision/\$1,433/Replacing Ted

- Thompson/Effective 2020-2021 school year  
4.04 Approval of 1<sup>st</sup> Quarter Early Graduates.  
4.05 Open Enrollment Requests (info only).

**Into Bettendorf**

- 4 - from Pleasant Valley  
1 - from Davenport

5. Informational/Action Items.

- 5.01 **BCSD and City of Bettendorf Crossing Guard Partnership.** The City of Bettendorf has been providing crossing guard services at Mark Twain, Paul Norton, Herbert Hoover, Neil Armstrong, and Grant Wood. The city is requesting that the district share in the costs, graduated over five years, eventually covering 50% of the expense. This will begin with the 2021-2022 school year and the expense will come from the General Fund.

- 5.02 **LEP Allowable Costs.** The state requires that the board submit a report of its Limited English Proficiency (LEP) program expenses to the Department of Education. The district spent a little over \$213,000 in fiscal year 2020 for our limited proficient students. The district requests the authority of \$117,260.19 in allowable growth for LEP. It is not a tax levy or additional money; it is simply additional spending authority.

**ACTION:** Motion by Director Lynch, seconded by Director Eastman, to approve the SBRC request of \$117,260.19 in allowable growth for LEP allowable costs.

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

- 5.03 **BHS Gym Roof Project.** The District received three responses for the High School Competition Gym Roof Replacement. Administration recommended the board award the bid to Jim Giese Commercial Roofing in the amount of \$246,100. Estimated start date is November 2, 2020 and estimated completion date is December 30, 2020. This roof can be installed in cold weather conditions. The original board approved project amount was \$400,000 and insurance actual replacement cost is \$275,252.25.

**ACTION:** Motion by Director Pyevich, seconded by Director Lynch, to approve Jim Giese Commercial Roofing Base Bid #2 for the BHS Competition Gym Roof Replacement in the amount of \$246,100 with work to tentatively begin on November 2nd and tentatively finish on December 30<sup>th</sup>.

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

- 5.04 **Policies for First and Final Read.** These policies were updated and revised according to the recommended language from the Iowa Association of School Boards due to changes in Chapter 20.

**ACTION:** Motion by Director Pyevich, seconded by Director Champion, to approve policies listed below for a first and final read.

- 406.2, Licensed Employee Salary Schedule Advancement
- 406.3, Licensed Employee Continuing Education Credit
- 406.4, Licensed Employee Compensation for Extra Duty

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

- 5.05 **Policy for Second and Final Read.** Additional changes were made based on board input from the last board meeting.

**ACTION:** Motion by Director Eastman, seconded by Director Doerder, to the policy listed below for a second and final read.

- 404.1R1, Professional Responsibilities and Employee Discipline Regulation

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

- 5.06 **Curriculum Update (100% Online Learning Program).** Jillian Dotson, Director of Curriculum Instruction and Assessment, led a presentation on the District's 100% Online Learning Program. Stephanie Cleveland, 5th Grade, Landon Fry – MS Language Arts, Nikki Armstrong - Literacy/Social Studies 6-12 Curriculum & Professional Development Teacher Leader, and Andrea Cooper - HS Vocal Music gave a presentation on how they are working with students through online learning. They shared program highlights and talked about where support is needed. All shared that more time is needed and that the online class sizes are too large. They also encouraged parents to please reach out if they have questions or concerns.

- 5.07 **Canvas Update.** Jen Like, Instructional Technology Coordinator, gave an update on the Canvas Learning Management System. Canvas is a course management system that supports online learning and teaching. She thanked the board for their support.

- 5.07 **Return to Learn Planning Updates.** Dr. Morse presented results from the most recent parent and teacher surveys.

Three goals that have driven our Return to Learn for both 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> Quarters focus on:–

- High levels of learning for all students–
- The health and safety of our students and staff–
- Keeping our schools open

Based on the three goals above, and feedback from staff, parents, and students, it is recommended that BCSD remain in the Hybrid Learning Model with an option for the 100% Online Learning Program for 2<sup>nd</sup> Quarter. Prior to winter break, administrators will re-evaluate the learning model for 3<sup>rd</sup> quarter prior.

When looking at some of the data points, we continue to see the positivity rates increase. As of Friday morning, the Scott County 14-day positivity rate was at 8.4%, which

continues to increase. (goal is 5% or less per the Scott County Health Department). The number of positive cases on Friday was 48 (goal of 5 or less per the Scott County Health Department) and up from 18 the previous week. For this week, BCSD has had 10 positive cases and 91 quarantined individuals, which is also up from last week's numbers of 4 positive cases and 49 quarantined individuals.

The majority of the board was supportive in continuing with the hybrid learning model through 2<sup>nd</sup> Quarter.

**ACTION:** Motion by Director Lynch, seconded by Director Castro, to approve the 2nd Quarter Return To Learn Plan as presented.

Ayes: 5 Directors Castro, Eastman, Champion, Doerder, Lynch  
Nays: 2 Director Holland, Pyevich  
Motion carried 5-2

6. Future Events and Informational Items.

- October 19, 2020, BOE meeting, 6:00 pm

7. Adjournment.

Director Castro motion to adjourn the meeting at 9:29.m.

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Adam Holland, President

ATTEST:

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Colleen Skolrood, Secretary