

BETTENDORF COMMUNITY SCHOOL DISTRICT
BETTENDORF, IOWA

Unofficial Minutes of the June 15, 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 Administration Center, 3311 18th Street, Bettendorf, Iowa, on June 15, 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*

Members absent: Director Pyevich*

Other officials present: Dr. Jim Spelhaug, Interim Superintendent; Brietta Collier, Director of Finance; Jill Cirivello, Director of Human Resources; Jillian Dotson, Director of Curriculum; Curt Pratt*, Director of Operations; Sean McGinn, Director of Technology; David Hlas, Director of Special Services; Jennifer Like, Director of Instructional Technology & Data Management; Joy Kelly, BHS Principal; John Cain, GW Principal; Monica Flink, Manager/Communications Assistant; David Farmer*, Treasurer; Mary Heeringa*, BEA Representative; Colleen Skolrood, Board Secretary.

*present via Zoom

Director Pyevich arrived at 6:02 p.m.

2. Approve the Agenda.

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

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

Nays: 0

Absent: 1 Director Pyevich

Motion carried 6-0-1

3. Communication.

3.01 **PRESIDENT STATEMENT:** Because of COVID-19 restrictions, if you would like to provide input on any matter, please email Celeste Miller at cmiller@bettendorf.k12.ia.us. Please provide your name and address in your email. Those comments will be read per board policy 213.E1 - Public Input At Board Meetings. Iowa law prohibits discussing specific employees or their job performance.

There were no comments.

3.02 **BOARD SHARED COMMUNICATION:** There was no shared communication.

3.03 **SUPERINTENDENT REPORT:** Jillian Dotson included a 4th Quarter Curriculum update in the packet.

Dr. Spelhaug reminded everyone that the state Technology Access Survey closes on June 24. If you have not yet participated, please do so. This survey will guide the state as to how and where they are going to invest nearly \$26M across the state.

Dr. Spelhaug thanked board student representatives Carly Chelf, Kurtis Holmes, Ty Gross, Ella Kilstrom, and Emma Teach for their service. He also thanked all of the faculty and staff. He said he has been welcomed and people across the board have worked hard and made progress. He is deeply appreciative of their support.

Lastly, this past May is traditionally School Board Appreciation month. He wanted to save his comments for his last board meeting. He said being a school board member is tough work. It is, in his estimation, the greatest form of democracy that exists in our nation. It is locally elected officials, who serve without compensation, in dealing with some of the most difficult issues a local community can face. He has admired their work. They have allowed him to do his job and he hope that continues. He said while they did not always agree, they helped him make decisions and be better informed.

President Holland said it has been a pleasure working with Dr. Spelhaug and thanked him for helping us out. He wished him all the best. Director Castro said Dr. Spelhaug jumped into a hot bed and dealt with the issues quickly.

- 3.04 **DIRECTOR OF FINANCE REPORT:** In regards to COVID expenditures, Brie Collier reported the district has either spent or encumbered \$47,748 out of the \$272,000 total allocation.
- 3.05 **BEA REPORT:** The BEA discussed the proposed changes to the class size policy and Return to Learn Plan at their last BEA meeting. Dr. Spelhaug and Mary Heeringa worked through some of the language regarding the class size policy. With the Return to Learn Plan, there are a lot of unknowns. Ms. Heeringa thanked Dr. Spelhaug on behalf of the BEA. She said they are very thankful for his work and time.

4. Consent Agenda.

Motion by Director Champion, seconded by Director Lynch, 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 June 1, 2020 Regular Board Meeting Minutes
- 4.02 Approval of June 15, 2020 Bills Recommended for Payment
- 4.03 Approval of Administrative Recommendations – Personnel
Classified Retirement
Susan Rashid/MT/Nutrition Services Part-Time/Effective 06/05/20
Classified Resignation
Lindsey Jimenez/NA/Paraeducator/Effective 06/05/20
Angela Pacini/PN/Paraeducator/Effective 06/05/20
Terri Sierra/PN/Paraeducator/Effective 06/05/20
Jeremiah Stevenson/PN/Paraeducator/Effective 06/05/20
Classified Recommendation to Hire

Haley Brock/BHS/Paraeducator/\$17.00 per hour/5.75 hours per day/Replacing Shannan Schmidtknecht/Effective 08/20/20

Classified Letter of Assignment Modification

Maile Mejia/Administration Center/HR and Benefits Specialist/\$21.09 per hour to \$55,000.00annually/8.0 hours per day/Department Restructure/Effective 07/01/20

Curtis Sisul/BHS to MT/Custodian/Same rate of pay/8.0 hours per day/Replacing Catherine Sisul/Effective 07/01/20

Certified Resignation

Kelly Kolls/HH/Special Education/Effective 6/10/20

Certified Approval to Hire

Steven Andreson/BHS/Art/1.0 FTE/BA,3/\$42,259/Pending verification/Replacing Sarah Arter-Reese/Effective 2020-2021 school year

Brenna Clifton/MT/Counselor/1.0 FTE/MA,5/\$51,496/Pending verification/Replacing Natasha Dolan/Effective 2020-2021 school year

Kelly Cypher/PN/School Nurse/1.0 FTE/ND,5/\$29,621/Pending verification/Replacing Lisa Orwitz/Effective 7/1/2020

Morgan Steffen/BMS/SpEd Level II/1.0 FTE/BA,0/\$37,800/Pending verification/Replacing Dain Hendrickson/Effective 2020-2021 school year

Certified Transfer

Erin Pestka/BHS/From Math to Instructional Coach/1.0 FTE/Replacing Beth Thompson/Effective 2020-2021 school year

Melissa Simpson/HH/From 2nd Grade to Instructional Coach/1.0 FTE/Replacing Scott Berg/Effective 2020-2021 school year

Schedule D Resignation

Josh Liddle/BHS/Freshman Wrestling Coach/Effective 6/30/20

Schedule D Approval to Hire

Michael Ahrens/BHS/PE Team Leader/\$2,739/Replacing Diane Lichtenberg/Effective 2020-2021 school year

Tessa Daily/NA/Intramurals/\$4,735/Replacing John Miller/Effective 2020-2021 school year

4.04 Approval of Tuition Application for Landon Linkler, grade 2 from Davenport, IA

4.05 Open Enrollment Requests (info. only)

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

Into Bettendorf 2019/20

Malcolm Uhde, grade 3, continuation (Dav)

Into Bettendorf 2020/21

Leona Fleming, grade 7, new move (DAV)

Out of Bettendorf 2020/21

Ava Fosdyek, grade K (PV)

Ruby Jones, grade 9 (CAM)

5. Discussion Items & Reports.

- 5.01 **COVID-19:** John Cain noted the leadership teams have been working on our Return to Learn Plan since late May. Counselors, nurses, coaches, administrators and a few select staff have developed/drafted sections of our plan. The state deadline for submitting our plan is July 1. We will continue to work on our plan throughout the summer. Our plan is required to consider three models for planning to return to school in August. Our hope is that we can return “on-site” but we have a lot of unknowns prior to that becoming a reality.

The Three Models

Continuous Learning Model

The main differences from what we experienced to close the year and next year will be that participation is required for all students, all students must have internet connectivity, and all students will be graded.

Hybrid Learning Model

To accommodate safety precautions like social distancing this model will be a mixed of online and in person learning. Parents would expect their children in class one to two days per week on this model.

On-Site Learning Model

Our hope is that we are allowed to return to school in an on-site model as we know this would be best for student learning.

Jennifer Like talked about switching from Google Classroom to Canvas Learning Management System. Canvas Learning Management System (LMS) will allow Bettendorf schools to build the digital learning environment that meets the unique challenges we face in and out of the classroom. Transparency is a key element in connecting the home, student, and the school. A disconnect can cause friction and lead to a breakdown in student achievement. A lack of understanding about what is taking place in a classroom can cause confusion and frustration by stakeholders.

Canvas enhances teaching, elevates learning, and supports growing traditional learning technologies. Canvas is made up of a powerful set of highly integrated learning products used to monitor grades, assignment submissions, share class documents, facilitate instruction, and timely feedback between students and teachers. Canvas is designed to be integrated in all three models of instruction we may have to deliver for the upcoming school year –all online, hybrid, or onsite. The benefit of implementing Canvas is a disruption-free transition from one learning model to another.

Brie Collier said the initial investment can be purchased out of the COVID allocation that we have. The ongoing costs will be paid for by dropping a program that is not being used, which is \$10,000 a year. \$15,000 is still needed and Jillian Dotson can cover \$10,000 from her curriculum budget and Sean McGinn can cover \$5,000 from his technology budget.

Joy Kelly talked about the Iowa academic standards. Dave Hlas discussed equity and social/emotional behavior health. Jillian Dotson talked about the need for professional development with all the adjustments being made next year.

As additional guidance is received from the state, parents will be updated and surveyed

to make sure the district is doing all that it can to serve your children.

- 5.02 **DISCUSSION OF PARENT/STUDENT HANDBOOK AND AEA PARTNERSHIP SCHOOL:** Joy Kelly discussed the handbook changes made at the secondary level and John Cain discussed the minor changes made to the elementary parent/student handbook.

Dr. Spelhaug discussed the discipline changes. The goal is to set a very clear and consistent pathway for how discipline is handled across all buildings at all grade levels. In his analysis, the thing that has been missing is that there are matters where the superintendent should consistently be involved.

The AEA partnership school is a consortium of districts and the school is located in Dewitt. It is a place for school districts to temporarily place behaviorally challenged special education students. Dr. Spelhaug said he does not believe you can discipline yourself into being a great school, but if you do not have good, consistent discipline, you are facing challenges that make our mission harder to accomplish. The initial membership cost of \$17,500 will be a one-time General Fund expense. The cost for our students to attend will come out of the Special Education Fund. The ongoing lease and utilities will come out of PPEL.

Dr. Spelhaug reviewed the Code of Conduct. He said there is one form of student discipline that should come to the board and that is expulsion. Other stuff is handled through the superintendent's office and through our administrative policies. Currently, a Good Conduct Code can be appealed to the board. In his opinion, that is wrong. He explained the changes and the majority of directors approved of the changes

- 5.03 **DISCUSSION OF POLICY REVIEW – SECOND & FINAL READING:** Dr. Spelhaug reviewed the changes made to Policy 606.1R, Class Size Regulation. Kindergarten stays at 22 students. First, second and third grades will go from 22 to 24 students. Fourth and fifth grades will remain at 25 students. Except for limited exceptions approved by the superintendent (for example, single building special needs programs), the class size limit will not be extended if there is room at a different building at that grade level. An educational aide will be added only after all buildings at that grade level are one student passed the class size limit.
- 5.04 **DISCUSSION OF SPECIAL EDUCATION PROGRAMMING AND ENROLLMENT:** Dr. Spelhaug had hoped that he was going to be able to make some improvements in terms of the special education enrollment situation, particularly as it remains at the elementary level. As part of the facilities plan, he believes we need to look at adding a special education section at Paul Norton so we can more effectively distribute special education students across all of our elementary buildings.
- 5.05 **DISCUSSION OF LEGISLATIVE PRIORITIES:** Dr. Spelhaug included a local control statement to the list of priorities. The other legislative priorities remain the same.
- 5.06 **DISCUSSION OF MAY FINANCIALS AND ADMINISTRATIVE SALARY SCHEDULE:** Brie Collier reviewed the May financials.

Brie and Jill Cirivello put together an administrative salary schedule that is fiscally responsible while staying in line with like-sized districts.

6. Action Items.

- 6.01 **APPROVAL OF LEARNING MANAGEMENT SYSTEM:** Motion by Director Champion, seconded by Director Eastman, to approve the Canvas Learning Management System as presented.

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

- 6.02 **APPROVAL OF PARENT/STUDENT HANDBOOK AND AEA PARTNERSHIP SCHOOL:** Motion by Director Champion, seconded by Director Lynch, to approve the Parent/Student Handbook and participation in the AEA Partnership school as presented.

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

- 6.03 **APPROVAL OF POLICY REVIEW – SECOND & FINAL READING:** Motion by Director Champion, seconded by Director Eastman, to approve the policies listed as presented.

Ayes: 6 Directors Holland, Lynch, Castro, Champion, Doerder, Eastman
Nays: 0
Absent: 1 Director Pyevich
Motion carried 6-0-1

- 6.04 **APPROVAL OF LEGISLATIVE PRIORITIES FOR 2020-2021:** Motion by Director Champion, seconded by Director Lynch, to approve the 2020-2021 Legislative Priorities as presented.

Ayes: 6 Directors Lynch, Castro, Champion, Doerder, Eastman, Holland
Nays: 0
Absent: 1 Director Pyevich
Motion carried 6-0-1

- 6.05 **APPROVAL OF MAY FINANCIALS AND ADMINISTRATIVE SALARY SCHEDULE:** Motion by Director Champion, seconded by Director Eastman, to approve the May financials and Administrative Salary Schedules as presented.

Ayes: 6 Directors Castro, Champion, Doerder, Eastman, Holland, Lynch
Nays: 0
Absent: 1 Director Pyevich
Motion carried 6-0-1

7. Closed Session – Litigation.

- 7.01 Motion to Enter into Closed Session. Motion by Director Champion, seconded by Director Lynch, to enter into closed session, as provided in Iowa Code section

21.5(1)(c) of the Open Meetings Law to discuss strategy with counsel in matters where litigation is imminent where its disclosure would be likely prejudice or disadvantage the position of this school district in that litigation.

Ayes: 6 Directors Castro, Champion, Doerder, Eastman, Holland, Lynch
Nays: 0
Absent: 1 Director Pyevich
Motion carried 6-0-1

Directors entered into closed session at 8:00 p.m. Directors returned to open session at 9:02 p.m.

8. Future Events and Informational Items.

- July 13, 2020, BOE meeting, 6:00 pm

9. Adjournment.

Director Castro motion to adjourn the meeting at 9:04 p.m.

Adam Holland, President

ATTEST:

Colleen Skolrood, Secretary