

BETTENDORF COMMUNITY SCHOOL DISTRICT  
**BETTENDORF, IOWA**

Unofficial Minutes of the September 13, 2017 Special 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 special Board meeting at the Administration Center, 3311 18<sup>th</sup> Street, Bettendorf, Iowa, on September 13, 2017. President Gordon Staley called the meeting to order at 6:08 p.m. Colleen Skolrood, Board Secretary, verified that the meeting notice had been posted and mailed to the media as required by law.

Members present: Directors Justis, Pyevich, Staley, Struck, Tinsman, Trahan

Members absent: Director Castro

Other officials present: Mike Raso, Superintendent; Celeste Miller, Director of Communications; Kay Ingham, Director of Student Services; Lisa Reid, BMS Principal; Jayme Olson, BMS Associate Principal; Lorelei Andedo, BMS Associate Principal; Wendy Meyer, Legal Counsel; Colleen Skolrood, Board Secretary.

2. Agenda Approval.

Motion by Director Stuck, seconded by Director Justis, to approve the agenda as presented.

Ayes: 6 Directors Justis, Pyevich, Staley, Struck, Tinsman, Trahan

Nays: 0

Absent: 1 Director Castro

Motion 6-0-1

3. Discussion Item.

Jason and Susan Meredith met with the board and administration to conduct a student appeal in regards to the placement of their child at Bettendorf Middle School. Ms. Meredith said it started as a simple parent request to put her daughter into advanced classes and it has gotten completely out of control. She said she has been told for two years that her daughter would not be in advanced classes but she would be with the best regular education teachers who would differentiate the curriculum. She noted she does not have an issue with teachers, just with the administration who refuses to place students appropriately. Ms. Meredith reported her daughter's scores in writing last year dropped and her math did not improve much as a result of differentiation. She believes her scores could have improved if she was in a challenging class. She said the district is slowing her daughter down rather than giving her the challenge she desires. The parents are requesting their daughter be placed in advance courses as soon as possible.

BMS Principal Lisa Reid and Associate Principal Jayme Olson talked about the Extended Learning Program (ELP), which is a very restrictive program and is the top 3-5%. They expand beyond that at the middle school and offer honors courses in language arts and math. She showed the board where the student had tested, and the criteria used for the honors courses. The student did not meet the criteria.

4. Closed Session.

Motion by Director Struck, seconded by Director Tinsman, to go into closed session in accordance with Iowa Code section 21.5(1)(a), for the purpose to review or discuss records which are required or authorized by state or federal law to be kept confidential or to be kept confidential as a condition for that governmental body's possession or continues receipt of federal funds.

Ayes: 6 Directors Pyevich, Staley, Struck, Tinsman, Trahan, Justis

Nays: 0

Absent: 1 Director Castro

Motion 6-0-1

Directors entered into closed session at 7:56 p.m. Directors returned to open session at 8:58 p.m.

5. Action Item.

Motion by Director Justis, seconded by Director Pyevich, the board recommends that the student be enrolled into Honors Language Arts effective immediately; but the student shall maintain her current math curriculum at this time.

Ayes: 6 Directors Staley, Struck, Tinsman, Trahan, Justis, Pyevich

Nays: 0

Absent: 1 Director Castro

Motion 6-0-1

Director Struck thanked the family and said the board feels it is important to advocate for your children. She thanked district administration and said they provided the board with a very clear cut understanding of what the criteria is and it made sense to the board. In the future, the board would like to make sure all parties are communicated with on what the expectations are. The board policy committee will be reviewing the current policies.

6. Adjournment

Director Struck motioned to adjourn the meeting at 9:00 p.m.

---

Gordon Staley, President

ATTEST:

---

Colleen Skolrood, Board Secretary