

BETTENDORF COMMUNITY SCHOOL DISTRICT
BETTENDORF, IOWA

Unofficial Minutes of the June 1, 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 1, 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*, Doerder*, Eastman*, Holland, Lynch*, Pyevich*

Members absent: Director Champion

Other officials present: Dr. Jim Spelhaug, Interim Superintendent; Brietta Collier, Director of Finance; Jill Cirivello*, Director of Human Resources; Jillian Dotson, Director of Curriculum; Celeste Miller, Director of Communications; Curt Pratt*, Director of Operations; Sean McGinn, Director of Technology; David Farmer*, Treasurer; Mary Heeringa*, BEA Representative; Colleen Skolrood, Board Secretary.

*present via Zoom

2. Approve the Agenda.

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

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

Nays: 0

Absent: 1 Director Champion

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:** Director Pyevich congratulated all seniors who graduated on Sunday, May 31.

3.03 **SUPERINTENDENT REPORT:** Dr. Spelhaug reported the Iowa Department of Education will be distributing, through local school districts, an electronic technology access survey to all families starting on June 3. For families who do not have electronic needs, the survey will be sent via mail. This will provide the state essential information to understand the specific technology needs that families and students require including

broadband internet and devices for remote learning. The response from our families to this survey will help the state prioritize this funding to secure resources to support students and families in areas of the state with the greatest need.

- 3.04 **DIRECTOR OF FINANCE REPORT:** Brie Collier reported REC met last Friday to revise Fiscal 2020 and 2021 estimates. Estimated growth is at 1% for this current year and 0.8% for FY21. The Governor signed the 2.3% SSA Bill for FY21, but the legislature will have to adjust it to match the reduced growth. The Sales Tax estimated growth was also reduced. She will continue to monitor.

COVID expenses to date - 28,839.67.

The district received a preliminary Fiscal 2021 Aid Levy review from the Department of Management. There are no adjustments needed to our tax rate at this time.

Lastly, there is \$10,000 from the activity fund on the bill listing this evening. That is half of the annual \$20,000 allotment that the high school activity account pays for transportation. We spent a little over \$94,000 in total in high school transportation costs. The activity fund covers \$20,000 of that \$94,000.

- 3.05 **BEA REPORT:** The final BEA meeting will be on Wednesday, June 3 and Round Table on Thursday, June 4.
- 3.06 **Erpelding & Bunn Named BHS 2020 Athletes of the Year.** Congratulations to Maggie Erpelding & Charlie Bunn for being named the BHS 2020 Athletes of the Year!
- 3.07 **Four BHS Students Place in Le Grand Concours.** Four Bettendorf High School students earned honors for high achievement in Le Grand Concours, the National French Contest. Le Grand Concours is an annual competition sponsored by the American Association of Teachers of French. Students test at different levels and can earn state as well as national placement and awards.
- 3.08 **BCSD Elementary Students Nominated to Honor Bands.** Twenty-three Bettendorf Community School District elementary students were nominated to at least one of the elementary honor bands this spring (COE College Honor Band, SEIBA Elementary Honor Band, Young Musicians Honor Band). All three honor bands were canceled this year due to Covid-19. We wanted to make sure these students were still recognized for their efforts! We are incredibly proud of their hard work!
- 3.09 **85 Students Accepted into BHS National Honor Society.** Eighty-five students were inducted into the Bettendorf High School Honor Society on May 20. The students all pledged to always to seek the light of truth, to hold scholarly habits, to engage in worthy service, and to lead forward in all things that shall advance the welfare of the school, the well-being of their community, and the honor of their country. Members are sophomore through seniors with a cumulative GPA of 3.5 or better who have taken or are currently enrolled in an honors or AP level class. Students also must meet required standards in four areas of evaluation: character, scholarship, leadership, and service.
- 3.10 **2020 BCSF Scholarship Recipients.**
- 3.11 **BHS Students Earn National Awards for Community Service Impact.** Five Bettendorf High School students are being recognized by the United Nations Association of the USA (UNA-USA) and InnerView in the 2nd Annual National Community Service Awards. This program has been designed to connect student community service activities and commitment to the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) to transform our world. Students from Bettendorf High School delivered the most impact for SDG 3-Good

Health & Well-Being. The three-tier award program recognizes a range of student achievement: Merit for 20 hours, Honor for 40 hours and Ambassador for 100 hours of service this school year.

- 3.12 **BMS Students Selected to Participate in SEIBA Honor Band.** Twelve BMS Band students were selected by audition to participate in the Southeast Iowa Bandmasters Association (SEIBA) Honor Band.
- 3.13 **Boosters Donate \$80K to BHS Athletic Program.** At this year's All-Sports banquet on May 18, the Bettendorf Athletic Boosters announced their annual donation to help support Bettendorf High School student-athletes. This year, the booster club donated \$80K - money earned through concessions, fundraisers, donations, and apparel sales.
- 3.14 Thank you to the Bettendorf Boosters from their continued support of our students.
2020 BCSD Retirees. The Bettendorf Community School District would like to thank all our retirees for their years of service and dedication to the students, families and staff of the Bettendorf School District.
Susan Alagna - Program Nurse, BHS - 11 Years of Service
Vera Betts - Attendance Secretary, BHS - 29 Years of Service
Kevin Caldwell - Custodian Supervisor, BMS - 30 Years of Service
Julie Cowley - Paraeducator, BMS - 19 Years of Service
Cindy Franklin - Secretary, BMS 21 Years of Service
Caroline Garnaas - Paraeducator, BMS - 20 Years of Service
Terry Goodall - Registrar, BHS - 15 Years of Service
Carol Grondlund - ESL Teacher, PN/GW - 13 Years of Service
Joan Honson - Paraeducator, BHS - 19 Years of Service
Connie King - Language Arts, BHS - 17 Years of Service
Cindy Kothenbeutel - Admin Assistant-Technology, Admin - 25 Years of Service
Craig Lennon - Art, BMS - 31 Years of Service
Diane Lichtenberg - Physical Education, BHS - 36 Years of Service
Deb Mayhew - Secretary, EA - 15 Years of Service
Dean McCrea - Custodian, BMS - 35 Years of Service
Joyce McCutcheon - Paraeducator, MT - 18 Years of Service
Betsy Messmer - Secretary, BMS - 27 Years of Service
John Miller - Physical Education, NA - 24 Years of Service
Pamela Niebuhr - Paraeducator, BMS - 18 Years of Service
Kathy Ouellette - Secretary, BHS - 33 Years of Service
Danell Randall - Admin Assistant-HR, Admin - 28 Years of Service
Patricia Topping - 2nd Grade, NA - 33 Years of Service
Judith Wade - Family & Consumer Science, BMS - 50 Years of Service

4. Consent Agenda.

Motion by Director Lynch, seconded by Director Eastman, to approve the consent agenda as printed.

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

Nays: 0

Absent: 1 Director Champion

Motion carried 6-0-1

4.01 Approval of May 18, 2020 Regular Board Meeting Minutes

4.02 Approval of June 1, 2020 Bills Recommended for Payment

- 4.03 Approval of Administrative Recommendations – Personnel
Classified Resignation
Wade Baffa/BHS/Paraeducator/Effective 06/05/20
Carlos Cedeno-Perez/GW/Paraeducator-Youth Mentor/Effective 06/05/20
Classified Recommendation to Hire
Brian Sambdman/BMS/HVAC Technician/\$20.78/\$23.39 after 90 days/8.0 hours per day/Replacing Kevin Caldwell/Effective 06/08/20
Jennifer Szegda/NA/Paraeducator/\$17.00 per hour/3.5 hours per day/Replacing Rebecca Schroeder/Effective 08/20/20
Classified Letter of Assignment Modification
Clara Hayward/MT to TE/Paraeducator to Secretary A/\$16.74 to \$18.18 per hour/5.75 hours per day to 28.5 hours per week/Replacing Deb Mayhew/Effective 07/01/20
Catherine Sisul/MT to BMS/Custodian/\$20.46 per hour/8.0 hours per day/Replacing Dean McCrea/Effective 07/01/20
Administrative Approval to Hire
Zachary Shay/BHS/Associate Principal, Athletic Director/1.0 FTE/\$105,120/Pending Verification/ Replacing Colin Wikan/Effective 7/1/2020
Certified Resignation
Jessica Cline/BMS/ELP Teacher/Effective 6/30/20
Certified Approval to Hire
Jerad Block/BHS/Social Studies/1.0 FTE/MA,10/\$59,458/Pending verification/Replacing Dan Van Winkle/Effective 2020-2021 school year
Kelly Kolls/HH/Special Education/1.0 FTE/BA,6/\$47,037/Pending verification/Replacing Erica Mechum/Effective 2020-2021 school year
Cheyenne Morton/GW/3rd Grade/1.0 FTE/BA,1/\$39,074/Pending verification /Replacing Caitlyn McMeen/Effective 2020-2021 school year
Alexis Pairrett/HH/Special Education/1.0 FTE/BA,0/\$37,800/Pending Verification/Replacing Taylor Barros/Effective 2020-2021 school year
Melissa Randall/BHS/Special Education/1.0 FTE/BA+30,9/\$54,999/ Pending verification/Replacing Sarah Hackbarth/Effective 2020-2021 school year
Aaron Sass/BHS/Special Education/1.0 FTE/BA,1/\$39,074/Pending licensure/Replacing Derek Ahrens/Effective 2020-2021 school year
Schedule D Resignation
Kyle Mink/BMS/Team Leader 7th Grade House #2/Effective 6/30/20
Schedule D Approval to Hire
John Staber/BHS/Club Sponsor Yearbook/\$3,440/Replacing Connie King/Effective 2020-2021 school year
- 4.04 Approval of Preschool Contracts
- 4.05 Approval of Level I & Level II Investigators:
Level I – David Hlas, Karen Allison, Lisa Reid, Kevin Skillett, Roxanne Schmertmann, Joy Kelly, Caroline Olson and Jillian Dotson
Level II – James McDonald, McDonald Services, Windsor Heights, IA
- 4.06 Approval of the Appendix A - Allocation of Edison Academy
- 4.07 Approval of Grant Wood AEA 2020-2021 Contract
- 4.08 Approval of Tuition Application for Norah Harson, grade 11, from Rock Island, IL
- 4.09 Open Enrollment Request. Denial of the open enrollment application:
Out of Bettendorf 2020/2021
Kyrra Hettlage, grade 10 (CAM), not timely filed
- 4.10 Open Enrollment Requests (info only)

Into Bettendorf 2019/20

Isaiah Norman, grade 9, continuation (Dav)

Delaney Yeggy, grade 10, continuation (PV)

Into Bettendorf 2020/21

Finley Mook, grade K (PV)

Aleigha McClanahan, grade K (PV)

5. Discussion Items & Reports.

- 5.01 **COVID-19:** Friday, June 5 is the last day of school for students and Tuesday, June 9 for faculty. As the Return to Learn Plans are being put in place, one important element to consider is whether online learning is best conducted at school or home for faculty and staff.

Dr. Spelhaug said it is critical that all families have internet access. The district is working with the city. Any money the state allows in the Return to Learn plan will be used for this. Plans are being put in place for all three models: standard schedule, online learning, and a hybrid model.

- 5.02 **BHS GRADUATION UPDATE:** Seniors completed their work last week. 275 seniors remained enrolled in 4th quarter. Of this group, 8 will not successfully complete the necessary requirements by June 5 to graduate. Under the authority that the state provided during the period of COVID19, Dr. Spelhaug only had to make exceptions for 2 IEP students in terms of graduation requirements.

Lastly, there are 13 students that we know are not going to be able to participate in our graduation ceremony in August. As a result, they have received their diplomas this past weekend.

- 5.03 **DISCUSSION OF NUTRITION SERVICES BIDS:** The milk, bread and beverage bids are a continuation of where we have been this year.
- 5.04 **DISCUSSION OF SCHOOL FEES:** The only change to school fees is to the adult lunch and breakfast fees. Adult lunch will go from \$3.75 to \$4.00 and adult breakfast will go from \$2.00 to \$2.25.

In a review of the Show Choir Activity account, it was determined that the district can no longer charge students for show choir costumes. This is based on Department of Education guidance. As such, this item is no longer listed in the proposed 2020/21 fees.

While this program receives revenue from donations, Boosters and a hosted competition, it is not enough to support the program. They are asking the board to authorize \$20,000 annually in General Fund resources beginning with the 2020-21 school year to support this program and build program resources. Currently, the recommendation is to commit this annual General Fund Budget for the next four years and then evaluate Show Choir inventory. After four years, we can monitor program success and look to work in a phase out of General Fund dollars. Without this committed amount, the Show Choir program will not remain viable in its current offerings.

5.05 **DISCUSSION OF DISTRICT EMPLOYEE HANDBOOK & GUEST STAFF HANDBOOK:** There were no substantive changes to the handbook. Director of Human Resources, Jill Cirivello said she wanted to make it more welcoming. She removed duplicate language, added some additions to employee interactions with students to try to make it clearer what was appropriate and what was not, added a few graphics, moved around headings to make it more aligned with the content and addendums were added for each employee bargaining unit. All employee groups reviewed the handbook prior to it coming to the board.

5.06 **MATH UPDATE:** Jillian Dotson noted they have been working on making some improvements. The most important reason is due to the data from the current BHS graduates. Students are only required to take three years of math. Of the Bettendorf graduates of 2020 that were enrolled in 7th grade honors, 47% of those students did not take math their senior year. From 2017-2019, there was only an average of 42% of students that actually took an AP math course. In addition to student data, the Iowa Core has changed. Over half of the old algebra has been pushed down to middle school courses. Over 40% of the ACT math questions are over content which is now taught in grades 6-8. According to the National Council of Teachers in Mathematics, all students need to have access to a challenging math curriculum taught by effective teachers who differentiate instruction as needed. This leads us to look into our Tier 1 programming and how we can meet the needs of our students.

The committee will take a comprehensive look at the district's honors math program starting mid-August. The team would discuss and review success data and research that leads us to answer:

- Which students should qualify?
- What content is covered?
- When should honors be offered?

This will conclude with a final recommendation to the board in late fall. Team members would include: Director of Curriculum, Director of Student Services, Math CPD, instructional coaches, honors math teachers, ELP teachers, building principals, and parents.

Ms. Dotson said she is proud of the Bettendorf teachers who came together in December to create a math vision. She noted Lisa Reid and Mary Beck have been instrumental in putting this together.

5.07 **DISCUSSION OF LEGISLATIVE PRIORITIES:** Director Lynch will be the Legislative Representative.

Recommended Legislative Priorities:

1. Supplemental State Aid and School Funding
2. Mental Health
3. Preschool

A couple of Directors expressed their desire to add the school calendar to the list of priorities. Dr. Spelhaug will add local control to the priorities, which will include a statement on the calendar start date.

5.08 **DISCUSSION OF POLICY REVIEW – FIRST READING:** Dr. Spelhaug reviewed the

changes to Policy 606.1R, Class Size Regulation. Kindergarten will remain the same at 22 students. First, second, and third grades will go from 22 to 24 students. Fourth and fifth grades will be at 25 students or below. Approval from the Board of Directors will be required before exceeding a class size guideline by more than two children (3rd addition). At this time, the Board may consider a one-half time Teacher Assistant being assigned to the class. Importantly, class size limits will not be exceeded in any section or building until all sections in all buildings are at capacity.

Fifth grade will have the most issues next year, but otherwise the changes of class size work well. This allows the district to consider effective budget constraints and use of aides. Dr. Spelhaug noted the district is spending a lot of money on putting adults in the classrooms.

President Holland said the achievement data does not support the additional costs. Directors Doerder and Eastman are looking forward to moving forward on the change. Directors were comfortable with this being a first reading. It will be an action item at the next board meeting.

6. Action Items.

- 6.01 **APPROVAL OF NUTRITION SERVICES BIDS:** Motion by Director Eastman, seconded by Director Lynch, to approve the Nutrition Services Bid Recommendations for the 2020-2021 school year as presented.

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

- 6.02 **APPROVAL OF SCHOOL FEES:** Motion by Director Eastman, seconded by Director Lynch, to approve the 2020-2021 school fees as presented.

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

- 6.03 **APPROVAL OF DISTRICT EMPLOYEE HANDBOOK & GUEST STAFF HANDBOOK:** Motion by Director Eastman, seconded by Director Lynch, to approve the Employee Handbook and Guest Staff Handbook for 2020-2021 school year as presented.

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

7. Future Events and Informational Items.

- June 15, 2020, BOE meeting, 6:00 pm

8. Adjournment.

Director Castro motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:36 p.m.

Adam Holland, President

ATTEST:

Colleen Skolrood, Secretary