

BETTENDORF COMMUNITY SCHOOL DISTRICT  
**BETTENDORF, IOWA**

Unofficial Minutes of the December 2, 2019, 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 December 2, 2019. 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: Mike Raso, Superintendent; Brietta Collier, Director of Finance; Celeste Miller, Director of Communications; Heather Stocking, Director of Human Resources; Curt Pratt, Director of Operations; Caroline Olson, MT Principal; Mary Heeringa, BEA Representative; Carly Chelf, Student Rep; David Farmer, Treasurer; Colleen Skolrood, Board Secretary.

2. Agenda Approval.

2.01 Motion to Approve the Agenda.

Motion by Director Pyevich, 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. Commendations & Special Invited Guests.

3.01 Robotics Team Presentation. The elementary/middle school robotic teams shared their research presentations on improving communities. The 5<sup>th</sup> & 6th grade Robodogs shared their work on more splash pads in cities. The 7<sup>th</sup> & 8<sup>th</sup> grade team shared a solution on city flooding, Flood Buster Bricks.

3.02 Esbaum Presents at NAEYC Conference. District preschool teacher, Kory Esbaum (Neil Armstrong) and Speech and Language Pathologist, Abbie Keibler (AEA) presented a session on November 22 at the National Association for the Education of Young Children's annual conference. They shared their knowledge, experience, and classroom practices with teachers, administrators, and speech and language pathologists from around the country. The presentation they shared focused on Assistive Technology and Augmentative and Alternate Communication in the Early Childhood Classroom and they shared some of the wonderful things happening for children in our district's preschool classrooms.

4. Comments & Suggestions from Audience.

4.01 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.

5. 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

5.01 Approval of November 4, 2019 Committee of the Whole Board Meeting Minutes (Revised), November 11, 2019 Special Board Meeting Minutes, November 14, 2019 Special Board - Disciplinary Hearing Meeting Minutes, and November 18, 2019 Outgoing and Incoming Regular Board Meeting Minutes

5.02 Approval of December 2, 2019 Bills Recommended for Payment

5.03 Approval of Administrative Recommendations – Personnel

Classified Resignation

**Jamie Delaney**/BMS/Paraeducator/Effective 12/13/19

Classified Letter of Assignment Modification

**Kayla Goetz**/PN to HH/Paraeducator/Same rate of pay/5.75 hours per day/Replacing Melissa Franzen/Effective 12/03/19

**Sarah Rasmer**/NA/Paraeducator/Same rate of pay/3.5 to 5.75 hours per day/Student Need/Effective 12/03/19

Classified Recommendation to Hire

**Rebecca Schroeder**/NA/Paraeducator/\$16.74 per hour/3.5 hours per day/Replacing Ann Black/Effective 12/03/19

5.04 Approval of Request for Open Enrollment - Denial of the Open Enrollment Request 2019/20 Out of Bettendorf

Tyler Rose, grade 9 (PV)

5.05 Approval of Requests for Open Enrollment

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

Into Bettendorf 2019/20

Anthony Duran, grade 9, continuation (DAV)

Anthony Henderson, grade 3, continuation (DAV)

Olivia Jensen, grade 7, continuation (PV)

Joshua Jones, grade 7, continuation (Dav)

Out of Bettendorf 2019/20

Tyler Rose, grade 9, good cause (CAM)

6. Shared Communication & Committee Reports.

6.01 Board Shared Communication & Committee Reports.

Director Eastman attended the IASB Conference and said it was a great experience. She visited Neil Armstrong and said there are a ton of great activities coming up this month.

Director Lynch attended the IASB Conference. He noted the Herbert Hoover Winter Wonderland is this Friday from 5-8 p.m.

Director Doerder attended the IASB Conference. She is attending Legislative Day at the AEA on Thursday.

Director Castro said the mother whose house the district bought and one of her son's was in town for a 3 day weekend. Bill Bruce gave them a tour of the new Mark Twain building. They thought it was beautiful.

6.02 Student Representatives' Report.

Carly Chelf reported on the latest happenings at the high school.

6.03 BEA Report.

Mary Heeringa reported the next BEA meeting is this Wednesday at Hoover. A Round Table meeting with central administration is Monday. The BEA is meeting with board representatives next Wednesday for initial proposals for contract negotiations.

7. Discussion Items.

7.01 Discussion of Early Retirement.

The board reviewed and discussed an Early Retirement package for the 2019-2020 school year. The average participation over the last twenty years has been 23%. Participation jumped to 33% in 2017 when the package included an HRA/annuity combination. An assumption of between 13-20 retirees is appropriate for costing. Mary Heeringa said an Early Retirement package would boost staff morale.

The administration has recommended an Early Retirement package with a cash incentive of \$15,000 to be used toward an HRA if the retiree remains on district insurance or an annuity if the retiree does not remain on district insurance and sick day payout of \$60 per sick day to be deposited into an annuity.

Once an Early Retirement program is approved, employees are given forty-five days to consider participating. Employees have seven days to revoke an early retirement application.

Board members were in agreement that it is not something they are looking to offer every year.

7.02 Facility Update.

Director of Operations Reports, Curt Pratt:

### **Project Approval Process**

In an effort to promote transparency of projects and periodically inform the board of the status capital projects, Director Pratt introduced a process and document for the board to consider for future building projects. He shared a rough outline of a project approval process. Each step would require board discussion and approval.

### **Grant Wood Elementary Construction Closeout**

Two very large items remain unresolved and prevent closing the project out entirely. The storm water bioswale and detention pond have deteriorated due to heavy flow. The design team, contractor and district will bear some of these costs. The district's share of the costs is a little over \$7,000, which is the lowest amount among all three parties. The other item needing rectified is subsurface erosion around a storm sewer manhole that is causing deterioration of the asphalt surrounding the manhole. Bill Miller Excavating has agreed to dig up the manhole and correct the issues causing the erosion and Estes Construction has agreed to pay for the asphalt that will have to be removed and replaced for this work to be completed.

### **Mark Twain Project Update**

Marcus Dyer with Bush Construction gave an update on Mark Twain. Portions of the Mark Twain project have been turned over to the school district to begin furniture installation and move-in. The Ribbon Cutting Ceremony will be on January 3<sup>rd</sup> at 3:30 p.m.

Caroline Olson gave an update on the Mark Twain transition. She said staff is really excited and said it will be nice to be together very soon. She highlighted some of the activities/initiatives to support the consolidation. PTA Presidents Jenny Blackman and Heather Wade sponsored a lot of the activities. She said they have worked hard to combine similar events, honor previous traditions and create new traditions. Principal Olson talked about different ways of building trust and engaging parents and community. She also talked about creating a Task Force in order to address concerns and develop a new mission, vision, values, and goals for the Mark Twain Community.

President Holland thanked everyone for helping make it a smooth transition. Superintendent Raso thanked Jeremy Heeringa and Chad Uhde for filling in at Mark Twain while still performing their duties at the middle school and high school. Director Champion thanked the PTA Presidents for all their hard work on bringing the two school communities together.

### **Paul Norton/Herbert Hoover Project Update**

The design of Paul Norton has moved into Design Development. At the November 4<sup>th</sup> board meeting, a request to hold off on renovations to Herbert Hoover was made. At that time it was requested to present costs for two options to provide a secure entry. Below are the cost opinions for those two options:

- Option 1 – Move Reception & Secure Entry to Commons Entryway: \$81,150 (does not include any exterior work);
- Option 2 – Extend Existing Vestibule for Secure Entry \$62,060 (does not include any exterior work).

Directors discussed the options for a secure front entrance at Herbert Hoover. They talked about proceeding with one of the options only if the district is not able to complete the entire Hoover project within the next several years. It was noted that the current front entrance is already secure and safe. The proposed options would make it safer.

**Thomas Edison Project**

Directors are looking at a 10,000 square foot building with approximately 6-8 classrooms for a total cost of \$2.5M. Directors gave a verbal commitment to provide a facility that is safe and representative of the district. They would like to look at a site that has room for expansion. Director Pratt discussed looking at building off of an existing building, but with separate entrances.

7.03 Finance Update.

At-Risk Presentation and Budget Update. Director of Finance Brietta Collier reported the 2019/20 details indicate total estimated spending of \$1,793,310. The 2020/21 preliminary spending plan is for \$1,853,245. This is an increase of 3.3%. Most of this is an estimated increase to salaries of 3%. The board will have a chance to review the final submitted budget in January. This budget aligns to the presentation Ms. Chelf gave in November for the overall At-Risk plan and includes the addition of a Security Officer at the Middle School.

7.04 Miscellaneous.

On November 20-21 Superintendent Raso, Brie Collier, Joanna Doerder, Becca Eastman and Richard Lynch attended the IASB conference. They shared some highlights from keynote speakers Sir Ken Robinson and Hamish Brewer.

8. Action Items.

8.01 Approval of Early Retirement.

Motion by Director Champion, seconded by Director Lynch, to approve the Early Retirement Proposal.

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

Nays: 0

Motion carried 7-0

9. Management Report.

9.01 Superintendent Report. Superintendent Raso talked about upcoming Super Sub days.

9.02 Director of Finance Report – had nothing further to report.

10. Future Events and Informational Items.

- Thursday, December 5, Disciplinary Hearing, 6:00 pm
- Friday, December 6th, Superintendent is the Super Sub for the day
- Monday, December 9, Agenda Planning, 5:00 pm
- Thursday, December 12, Superintendent is the Super Sub for the day
- Monday, December 16, BOE meeting, 6:00 pm

11. Adjournment.

Director Doerder motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:40 p.m.

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Adam Holland, President

ATTEST:

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Colleen Skolrood, Secretary