

BETTENDORF COMMUNITY SCHOOL DISTRICT
BETTENDORF, IOWA

Unofficial Minutes of the January 9, 2017 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 January 9, 2017. President Gordon Staley called the meeting to order at 6:01 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, Pyevich, Justis, Staley, Trahan

Members absent: Directors Struck, Tinsman

Other officials present: Mike Raso, Superintendent; Kay Ingham, Director of Student Services; Heather Stocking, Director of Human Resources; Celeste Miller, Director of Communications; John Cain, GW Principal; Joy Kelly, BHS Principal; Lisa Reid, BMS Principal; Jayme Olson, BMS Associate Principal; Caroline Olson, MT Principal; Julie Trepka, PN Principal; Tim Perkins, Treasurer; Roger Wilming, BEA Representative; Kailey Baxter, Student Rep; Colleen Skolrood, Board Secretary.

Director Struck arrived at 6:06 p.m.

2. Agenda Approval.

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

Ayes: 5 Directors Castro, Justis, Pyevich, Staley, Trahan

Nays: 0

Absent: 2 Directors Struck, Tinsman

Motion carried 5-0-2

3. Comments & Suggestions from Audience.

President's Statement. On behalf of fellow Board members, at this time I would like to invite any member of the audience to step to the microphone with comments about items of interest or concern that do not appear on the agenda this evening. Please begin by stating your name and address. It would be most appreciated if you would limit your comments to three minutes so that we can keep the meeting moving in a timely fashion and allow others an opportunity to speak. We ask that you remember that Iowa law prohibits us from discussing specific employees or their job performance. If you have thoughts to share about items that are included as topics for tonight's meeting, we would invite those comments when we reach that point in the meeting. Thank you for your support of our school district.

Sally Werner, 1021 Carriage Place Dr., Bettendorf, said her son was approved for open dual enrollment within the Bettendorf School District for the 2016/17 school year at the December 7, 2015 board meeting. They received notice today that his enrollment has been revoked. She said she is not upset with the Bettendorf School District, the Board of Directors, or the Superintendent; she is simply asking for their support.

4. Commendations & Special Invited Guests.

- 4.01 Student Spotlight on Bettendorf Middle School. Bettendorf Middle School students presented information on project-based learning with 1-1 devices.

5. Consent Agenda.

Motion by Director Struck, seconded by Director Justis, to approve the consent agenda with the exception of item 5.03, Approval of Administrative Recommendations – Classified, para positions only.

Director Castro noted under 5.01, Approval of December 19 Regular Board Minutes, under Board Policy 301.2 discussion, that Director Trahan voted no because she was not permitted, instead of the word *able*, to state her reasons why.

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

Nays: 0

Absent: 1 Director Tinsman

Motion carried 6-0-1

- 5.01 Approval of December 19, 2016 Regular Board Minutes and December 22, 2016 Emergency Session Board Minutes

- 5.02 Approval of December 19, 2016 Bills Recommended for Payment

- 5.03 Approval of Administrative Recommendations – Personnel

Classified Recommendation for Employment

Rachel Jackson/PN/Paraeducator/\$16.11 per hour/5.75 hours per day/New Position/Effective 01/03/17

Victoria Reyes/MT/Paraeducator/\$16.11 per hour/5.75 hours per day/New Position/Effective 01/09/17

Ashly Richmond/GW/Paraeducator/\$16.11 per hour/4.5 hours per day/New Position/Effective 01/03/17

Kristyn Rose/MT/Paraeducator/\$16.11 per hour/5.75 hours per day/New Position/Effective 01/09/17

Janine Sunderman/PN/Paraeducator/\$16.11 per hour/4.0 hours per day/New Position/Effective 01/09/17

Classified Letter of Assignment Modification

Melissa Laufenberg/BMS/Paraeducator/Same rate of pay/From 25 hours per week to 28.5/Additional duties for ISS/Effective 01/04/17

Shannon Muckenfuss/GW to Administration Center/Secretary A to Administrative Assistant/\$19.58 per hour/ From 7.5 to 8.0 hours per day/Replacing Nancy Herrin/Effective 07/01/17

Kairee Yerington/TJ to HS/Nutrition Services/5.0 hours per day/Replacing Allison Nelson/Effective 01/09/17

Schedule D Resignation

Brad Cole/BMS/Assistant 7th & 8th Grade Wrestling Coach/Effective 12/16/16

Ed Knupp/BHS/Assistant Varsity Soccer, Girls Coach/Effective 12/19/16

- 5.04 Food Services Co-op Contract – Eastern Iowa School Food Cooperative

- 5.05 Vera French Service Agreement - 2016/17

- 5.06 Early Graduates - 2nd Quarter 2016/17

- 5.07 Approval of Requests for Open Enrollment

FOR INFORMATION ONLY. The following students have been approved for

open enrollment.

Into Bettendorf, 2017/18

Isabella Reyes, grade 9, from Pleasant Valley

Out of Bettendorf, 2016/17

Brooklyn Carlson, grade 10, to Pleasant Valley, continuation

Madison Carlson, grade 7, to Pleasant Valley, continuation

Lucas Embrey, grade 10, to Pleasant Valley, continuation

Mark Erbst, kindergarten, to Davenport, continuation

Hazel Mosley, kindergarten, to Davenport, continuation

6. Shared Communication & Committee Reports.

6.01 Board Shared Communication & Committee Reports (audio begins at 25 36s).

Treasurer Perkins reported the Finance Committee met last Friday. They discussed the structure as it relates to the administration office.

6.02 Student Representatives' Report – Kailey Baxter.

- Semester is winding down
- More Pride Time offerings will be available next semester
- Beauty and the Beast will be on April 6-9
- College prep for sophomore and juniors was informative and useful

6.03 BEA Report.

Roger Wilming reported they are watching the Iowa Legislature and their legislative priorities and agenda.

7. Old Discussion.

7.01 Proposed Calendars for 2017/18 and 2018/19 (audio begins at 30m 09s).

Superintendent Raso reviewed feedback regarding proposed calendars for the 2017/18 and 2018/19 school years. Most of the comments were on the week long fall break. Superintendent Raso said they will post three calendars asking for public comments: a calendar with a week fall break, a calendar with a four day fall break, and a calendar with no fall break. The committee will meet again and come up with a recommendation by February 6th.

Donna Carlson, *3824 Adam Court, Bettendorf*, based on her observations, her middle schoolers really could benefit from a brief break in the fall. She said staff and students really do value and benefit from a brief break.

Traci Huskey, *6426 Gabrielle Way, Davenport*, said the committee should look at other options, because a week long break is not optimal for working families.

Dave Hlas, *3839 E. 58th Court, Davenport*, said Neil Armstrong parents and staff made it very clear that they wanted to keep the fall break. They are looking at alternate options. He said he knows that it is not easy for everyone, but we make winter and spring breaks work and find places for our children to go.

7.02 Elementary Facilities Update (audio begins at 52m 06s).

President Staley gave an update on proposed elementary facilities projects. Due to increased projected costs, the initial proposals from the Elementary Facilities Advisory Committee are being reassessed. The committee's recommendation to the board in May 2016 was to maintain all six elementary schools and upgrade the buildings to 21st-century learning environments. The board found that the original projected costs did not include expenditures such as asbestos removal and HVAC, and had minimal updating of current structures to blend in with additions and renovated areas.

Initially, Grant Wood Elementary was planned to be the first building upgraded due to the board's decision to reduce elementary class size and transition Grant Wood to a three-section school. Mark Twain and Thomas Jefferson elementary schools were scheduled to follow. Since the three buildings are more than 50 years old and project costs are estimated to be more than half the cost of new construction, the board is considering the replacement of buildings with new schools, but are concerned about working within the projected funds available.

The board discussed their potential interest in combining Mark Twain and Thomas Jefferson elementary schools into one three-section school at one of the two campuses or Meier Park. By phasing the construction and moving to a new 3-section school, the district could potentially move Grant Wood students and staff to another location temporarily, while the current school is razed and a new school is built on the Grant Wood campus. The discussions are still preliminary. Thomas Jefferson, Mark Twain and Meier Park soil borings are being analyzed. Site surveys are being conducted. The district is also obtaining enrollment projection. At this time, no decision has been made to close any school.

Katherine Boehm, 6223 *Eagle Ridge Ct., Bettendorf*, is concerned with the lack of urgency. She said she was really hoping the process would have begun this spring. She asked the board to consider getting administration, staff and the public involved in the process again.

Scott Gullickson, 6423 *Gabrielle Way, Davenport*, said the main thing he heard is that we are back to square one. He said the board needs to make a decision sooner rather than later.

Jim Farber, 3029 *Middle Rd., Davenport*, applauded the board for taking time to do some research. He said we need to look at the district as a whole, not just one school.

Michelle Lindquist, 2206 *Cody St., Bettendorf*, is concerned with using the Meier Park location. She noted it was previously used as a landfill.

Nancy Wilson, 2212 *Cody St., Bettendorf*, said she would hate to see Mark Twain close. She said it is a great school and would like to see the district add on to the school if the price is right.

Scott Gehler, 5690 *Barcelona St., Bettendorf*, said he is concerned about the process and

that the decisions being made may not represent all the kids in the district. He asked the board to keep that in mind as they make their decisions.

Lisa Fiedler, 1400 *Terrace Park, Bettendorf*, believes having Paul Norton's cafeteria right off the front entrance is a safety issue and safety should be the #1 priority of the district.

Mike Lansing, 6006 *Utica Ridge Rd., Davenport*, questioned why the conversation of remodeling has been tabled. He completely disagrees that just because the building is 40-50 years old that you should build new. He said he would not throw out remodeling and asked the board to make a decision as quickly as possible.

Erin Waldron-Smith, *Moline*, is on staff at Thomas Jefferson. She said learning will still go on in these classrooms no matter the size, but she encouraged people to come and see how hard teachers are working in small situations. She said we should do what we can do to lessen the stress of the teachers and students.

Jennifer Swisher, *Bettendorf*, bought her house two years ago because of Mark Twain. She said there are a lot of children in her neighborhood that attend or will attend Mark Twain.

Andrew Champion, 1215 *Eastmere Dr., Bettendorf*, said it is ridiculous and not environmentally responsible to bulldoze three elementary buildings just because they are 40-50 years old. He noted the community wanted all the buildings left open and wanted them remodeled.

The board will have a work session in the near future when they have results from the site surveys and enrollment projections. Information about the facilities work session will be shared with parents, staff and the community when it becomes available.

8. New Business.

8.01 BHS Course Proposals for 2017/18 (audio begins at 1h 44m 20s).

Bettendorf High School Interim Principal Joy Kelly presented new course proposals for 2017/18.

- **English 10+** - designed to support a student while they are concurrently enrolled in English 10
- **Freshman Band / Tier 1 Band** - this ensemble is the first step in sequence for band students at BHS.
- **Honors Environmental Science** - this course is a new proposed course for students seeking to learn about the nature of our planet and the spheres that make up its dynamic systems
- **Math Concepts** - this course is designed for students who need prerequisite skills before entering Pre-Algebra or Algebra 1

None of these course proposals require any additional FTE.

Board members directed Ms. Kelly to look at making the vocational courses more robust and asked her to come back with a plan

8.02 Approval of BHS Course Proposals for 2017/18.

Motion Director Trahan, seconded by Director Justis, to approve BHS course proposals for 2017/18.

Ayes: 6 Directors Pyevich, Staley, Struck, Trahan, Castro, Justis
Nays: 0
Absent: 1 Director Tinsman
Motion carried 6-0-1

8.03 Financial Reports Discussion (2h 18m 41s).

Superintendent Raso reviewed and discussed board financial reports. He asked the board if they want certain things in the financial reports and how they want to see the reports. One board member asked that the financial reports be grouped by account number. Another board member asked that more detailed be added to the Special Education report.

Approval of Administrative Personnel – Classified Para Positions.

Motion by Director Justis, seconded by Director Struck, to approve para positions under 5.03, Classified heading.

Directors all agreed that they need to continually monitor and review the Special Education budget.

Ayes: 6 Directors Staley, Struck, Trahan, Castro, Justis, Pyevich
Nays: 0
Absent: 1 Director Tinsman
Motion carried 6-0-1

9. Superintendent's (Management) Report.

9.01 Superintendent's Report –

- New Structure – Met with the Finance Committee to discuss the structure at the Central Office. He said they will come to the board with a more defined plan.
- Hiring Update – Chade Uhde will help out part-time at the high school in a dean type position
- Superintendent's Goals
- Board Policy #301.2 – Directors do not have to contact Superintendent Raso before visiting classrooms, only the building principal. He asked them to contact him directly with specific requests for information so he can direct their requests to the appropriate people.

10. Board Requests for Information.

- A report on how many students participate in Scott Community College courses while at Bettendorf High School and how much credit do they earn and how much it costs the district.

11. Future Events and Informational Items.

- Tuesday, January 10, BCS Foundation, 11:45 am, Admin
- Monday, January 16, Martin Luther King Day, No School/District Offices Closed
- Wednesday, January 25, SIAC Meeting, 4:30 pm, Admin
- Thursday, January 26, Parent Executive Council, 12:00 noon, Admin
- Monday, February 6, Board of Education, 6:00 pm, Admin

12. Adjournment.

Director Castro motion to adjourn the meeting at 9:15 p.m.

Gordon Staley, President

ATTEST:

Colleen Skolrood, Secretary