

BETHANY BOARD OF EDUCATION
Regular Meeting Minutes
October 13, 2021

Present

Angelo Amato
John Paul Garcia
Amy Lestinsky, Vice Chair
Chris Pittenger, Chair
Lynette White, Secretary

Administration

Colleen Murray
Kai Byrd
Tom Reed-Swale

Absent

Angel Irigoyen
EJ Maher
Shawn Uscilla
Namita Wijesekera

- Call to Order** Dr. Pittenger called the meeting to order at 6:39 p.m.
- PTO Report** Mrs. Amy Lestinsky reported on recent and upcoming PTO events.
- Presentation** Mr. Reed-Swale, Ms. Nathman, Mrs. Hubbard, and Mr. Bruni gave a presentation on Student Achievement and fielded questions from Board members.
- Public Comment** None.
- Minutes** **Motion** by Lestinsky, seconded by Amato to accept the September 1, 2021 Regular Meeting Minutes as presented. *The motion carries 3 yes, 2 abstain (Garcia, White), 4 absent (Irigoyen, Maher, Uscilla, Wijesekera).*
- Committee Reports**
- Finance:** Dr. Pittenger reported there was an error on the June 2021 Operating Budget Summary which was corrected and now needs reapproval.
- Motion** by Garcia, seconded by White to accept the revised final report of expenditures and adjustments to the 2020-2021 Operating Budget through June 30, 2021 as presented. *The motion carries 5 yes, 4 absent (Irigoyen, Maher, Uscilla, Wijesekera).*
- Motion** by Garcia, seconded by Lestinsky to accept the report of expenditures and adjustments to the 2021-2022 Operating Budget through August 31, 2021 as presented. *The motion carries 5 yes, 4 absent (Irigoyen, Maher, Uscilla, Wijesekera).*
- Motion** by Garcia, seconded by Amato to accept the report of expenditures and adjustments to the 2021-2022 Operating Budget through September 30, 2021 as presented. *The motion carries 5 yes, 4 absent (Irigoyen, Maher, Uscilla, Wijesekera).*
- Dr. Pittenger further reported on an Electricity Look Back, Solar Panel Project, Grants, and the 2022-2023 Budget Process.

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| Curriculum: | The committee met last week and discussed technology, curriculum programs, professional learning, Equity Team, and were given a student achievement presentation. |
| Facilities: | The committee is scheduled to meet on December 7, 2021. |
| Ad Hoc Facilities: | The committee has not met recently but Mrs. Murray provided an email to the committee on the status of the facility assessments being done and will reconvene once the results are in. Mrs. Murray announced that Rob White Architects was chosen as the architect for the outdoor learning project. |
| Policy: | The committee met last night and will be presenting several policies for first reading in November. |
| Transportation: | The committee has not met recently. |
| ACES: | None. |
| Unfinished Business | None. |
| New Business | None. |
| Superintendent Report | <p>Mrs. Murray reported that on September 30, 2021, PK-6 enrollment was 388 students.</p> <p>Mrs. Murray provided an update on new personnel and the status of posted positions.</p> <p>Mrs. Murray reported on Project COVID DeteCT student screening program. To date, 76 students will be taking advantage of the program which is scheduled to begin the week of October 25th.</p> |
| Director Report | Mrs. Byrd reported on Curriculum and Special Services. Her report is on file in the BOE Packet. |
| Principal Report | Mr. Reed-Swale reported on BCS's recent and upcoming events. His report is on file in the BOE Packet. |
| Chairman Report | <p>Dr. Pittenger announced the Fall BOE Open Forum will be held on Thursday, October 28th at 6:30 pm via Zoom.</p> <p>Dr. Pittenger reminded Board members that the CABA Conference in November is a great event.</p> |
| Communications | Reviewed and placed on file. |
| Public Comment | <p>David Grimes, 22 Woods Road, addressed the Board on the following topics:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A transparent Superintendent search with public participation. • Consideration for students to access lockers, playground, and cafeteria. • Possibility of allowing students more freedoms once vaccine is available. |

Executive Session

Motion by Pittenger, seconded by Garcia that the Board of Education enters into Executive Session to discuss the Superintendent's 2021-2022 goals and the Superintendent Search and that Colleen Murray and Susan Carpenter are invited to attend. *The motion carries 5 yes, 4 absent (Irigoyen, Maher, Uscilla, Wijesekera).*

Attendance

Present

Angelo Amato
John Paul Garcia
Amy Lestinsky, Vice Chair
Chris Pittenger, Chair
Lynette White, Secretary

Other

Colleen Murray
Susan Carpenter

Absent

Angel Irigoyen
EJ Maher
Shawn Uscilla
Namita Wijesekera

Reconvene

Moved from Executive Session and the regular meeting reconvened at 9:09 p.m.

Business

Motion by Pittenger, seconded by Garcia to amend the agenda to appoint a Superintendent Search Committee in light of Superintendent Colleen Murray's retirement effective June 30, 2022. *The motion carries 5 yes, 4 absent (Irigoyen, Maher, Uscilla, Wijesekera).*

Motion by Pittenger, seconded by Amato that the Board of Education as a whole is appointed as the Executive Search Committee for the Superintendent position. *The motion carries 5 yes, 4 absent (Irigoyen, Maher, Uscilla, Wijesekera).*

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 9:11 p.m.

Susan Carpenter
Susan L. Carpenter
Recording Secretary

Approved November 10, 2021