

MINUTES OF BOARD OF EDUCATION
The Board of Education of the Brentwood School District

Open Session	Conference Center	7:00 p.m.	February 15, 2022
Kind of Meeting	Location	Time	Date

Members

<u>Present</u> Melissa Nehrt Chris Perkins Keith Rabenberg Keith Slusser Lindsay Spencer Kerry Trostel	<u>Absent</u> Jamie Allen
--	------------------------------

- | | |
|--|--|
| Call to Order | President, Ms. Lindsay Spencer, called the open session meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. |
| Pledge of Allegiance | Ms. Spencer led the Pledge of Allegiance. |
| Communications | Ms. Spencer asked if there were any citizens' comments. Mr. John Schmid, BECC parent, sent a written comment thanking the Board, Superintendent, and staff for supporting masking to help keep students safe. |
| Roll Call | Brentwood School District Board members were present or absent as stated above. |
| Attendance | Also in attendance was Superintendent, Dr. Brian Lane. |
| ACTION 149
Approval of Consent
Agenda | The motion was made by Mr. Keith Slusser and seconded by Ms. Melissa Nehrt to approve the consent agenda as presented. The motion passed by a 6-0 voice vote. |
| ACTION 150
Approval of
Mitigation Plan | <p>Dr. Lane reviewed the COVID19 mitigation plan. BSD is currently conducting a survey with regard to going to masks optional. To date 330 parents, 150 students, and over 100 staff members have responded. A small majority prefers going to masks optional (53% parents, 66% students, and 54% staff). The survey is still open and may be accessed via ParentSquare.</p> <p>Dr. Lane said the survey is one data point. BSD is also looking at district rates and county rates and is listening to the CDC and the St. Louis County Health Department.</p> |

Dr. Lane requests approval to continue with the current mitigation plan. By Friday, February 25 Dr. Lane will send to the community a transition plan to go to masks optional sometime this school year.

Mr. Keith Rabenberg asked if the current plan would be in place until the next board meeting or if it could change before that time. Dr. Lane said the Board could vote on whether to keep the current plan in place until the next Board meeting and give the Superintendent the autonomy to implement the transition plan.

The motion was made by Mr. Rabenberg and seconded by Ms. Nehrt to continue the current mitigation plan as recommended and to give the Superintendent leeway to implement the transition plan based on advise and consent of the Re-Entry Committee.

Mr. Slusser asked that the two items be separate votes. He asked what the threshold would be for switching to masks optional. Dr. Lane said there would be a threshold to return to mask mandates. He wants to minimize the need to switch back and forth between the plans. The transition plan will threshold numbers, key dates, and vaccination verification information.

Ms. Kerry Trostel would like to have a gradual transition to masks optional. She said the district has been doing well by following the current plan.

Mr. Rabenberg asked about providing proof of vaccination. Dr. Lane said BSD can ask for proof.

Ms. Spencer said the survey is one data point. In addition to the other resources noted by Dr. Lane, Ms. Spencer said information from Children's Hospital is also considered.

The motion passed by a 5-1 voice vote.

ACTION 151
Approval of
FY2022-2023 and
FY2023-2024
Academic Calendars

Dr. Katy Chambers, Executive Director of Human Resources, convened a Calendar Committee of 18 stakeholders to prepare academic calendars for the next two years. The committee consisted of teachers, parents, support staff, Board members, and administrators. All school buildings were represented. Committee members reviewed state mandates, a summary of data from surrounding districts, and a survey completed by 48 students, 213 parents, and 106 staff.

The motion was made by Mr. Slusser and seconded by Ms. Nehrt to approve the academic calendars for FY2022-2023 and FY2023-2024. Ms. Spencer and Ms. Nehrt both said having two years of calendars will be beneficial for longer term planning. The motion passed by a 6-0 voice vote.

Presentation
Library Curriculum and
Math Curriculum

Dr. Alex Tripamer, Assistant Superintendent, introduced the Librarians and Math Teachers who will be making the presentations. Textbooks will be available for review at the Central Office. BSD will be asking for Board approval of the Library Curriculum and Math Curriculum at the March Board meeting. He said that the Counseling cycle has been moved to next year and the related curriculum will be ready for review at that time.

Ms. Kim Robertson, Elementary Librarian, and Ms. Libby Wilson, Librarian for Grades 6-12, presented the Library curriculum. The team reviewed Instructional Society for Technology in Education (ISTE) and American Association of School Librarians (AASL) standards. BSD needs to align with state learning standards, several of which have changed since the last review period. There are six foundations: Inquire, Include, Collaborate, Curate, Explore, and Engage. Librarians collaborate with teachers on inquiry-based research that includes learner interests and real-world issues.

Ms. Trostel asked if the Board can review additional book purchases. Ms. Wilson said books that purchased in the past cycle were for English courses. BMS/BHS has over 15,000 titles and each elementary has over 10,000 titles. Dr. Lane said new purchases would be available on new list sets.

Ms. Spencer asked about StoryLab access. Ms. Wilson said StoryLab has podcasting and video equipment. Students are able to tell their own stories. Teachers may sign up students. Students may also reserve the lab. A podcasting club has formed.

Ms. Hannah Katz-Urvan, Elementary Math Teacher, and Mr. Jerry Schmidt, Secondary Math Teacher, and Ms. Natalie Sellers, Middle School Math Teacher presented the Math curriculum. The state learning standards for math did not change.

Ms. Katz-Urvan's team looked at five programs and selected Math in Focus. If approved by the Board, the team will be able to start professional development this spring to be ready for fall. Most of the materials are available on-line.

Mr. Slusser asked how long Math in Focus has been available. Dr. Tripamer said at least 15 years. Mr. Slusser asked why it was not selected in a previous cycle. Dr. Tripamer said does not know the details of the previous selection. He said part of the research involves looking at programs high performing school districts are using. Ms. Katz-Urvan said Everyday Math had just come out with a program update during the previous math curriculum review cycle.

Ms. Nehrt asked if the materials would arrive before summer. Ms. Katz-Urvan said BSD has access on-line right now.

Ms. Trostel asked how the team would transition to the new program. Dr. Tripamer said Math in Focus provides a first-year transition plan that BSD would be able to use. He said at the secondary grade levels the emphasis is on problem solving and understanding of math.

Dr. Tripamer said Grades 6-8 will use DESMOS and Math in Focus will provide a foundation for the transition to problem solving. DESMOS is illustrative math. It is digital, with the option to print pages as needed. Digital provides teachers with immediate feedback and allows students to share their work and explain the thought process. Digital can also be used for remote learning. CMP3 materials will still be used to complement the DESMOS program. Mr. Mike Royal, BMS Math Teacher, has been using DESMOS with the 6th graders. Students said DESMOS was more engaging than CMP3.

Dr. Tripamer presented a middle school math curriculum video prepared by Ms. Sellers.

Ms. Trostel asked about blended activities and about transitioning back and forth from digital to textbooks. Dr. Tripamer said BMS math teachers do not want to use digital only. Illustrative math is collaborative in nature. Students will work with a combination of digital and hard copy materials. Ms. Trostel asked if Math in Focus was digital. Ms. Katz-Urvan said assessments and parts of lessons would be available on-line. Dr. Tripamer said DESMOS is project-based problem solving.

Ms. Trostel asked if BHS math courses would be digital. Mr. Schmidt said courses use textbooks with supplemental digital materials. He said that for the past three to four years BHS has used DESMOS in several courses to supplement the curriculum. He said higher education tends to be slower to incorporate some of the technology. Mr. Schmidt said that in teaching math to students, the mode of delivery is not as important as the students' abilities to access and grasp the ideas.

Ms. Trostel asked if parents would be able to review tutorials and other information to assist their students with math. Dr. Tripamer said BSD would look at options to make information available to families. Mr. Sam Rayburn, Communications Director, said a digital parent guide is available in DESMOS.

Ms. Trostel asked how BSD would work with students who may not have access to technology at home. Dr. Tripamer said teachers would provide hard copy materials to students who may need them.

Dr. Lane said BSD identified families who have limited access to technology and provided them with hot spots. Dr. Lane will check on continuing the payment process for the hot spots.

Ms. Trostel asked how students utilizing a digital math program would adapt to taking the hard copy ACT test. Dr. Tripamer thinks use of hard copy materials in math courses will continue, therefore, students would be comfortable taking hard copy tests. He said SAT is transitioning to on-line testing and other tests may transition as well.

Ms. Spencer asked if digital platforms would allow for language translations that may be helpful to students and families. Dr. Tripamer said DESMOS is offered in Spanish and English. He said digital material can also be run through Google Translate or other programs.

Ms. Nehrt asked if individualized learning could play a part. She also asked if students would be able to work ahead. Dr. Tripamer and Dr. Lane said the programs have direct instruction components which offer teachers immediate feedback so that additional support can be given to students who may need it. Math workshop time would provide opportunities for enrichment.

Ms. Nehrt asked if there would be professional development for the Math workshop team. Dr. Tripamer said BSD will be conducting professional development for the workshop model and the elementary and secondary levels.

Mr. Schmidt said he looked at all BHS courses and textbooks, as well as courses offered at approximately 20 area districts. Mr. Schmidt is on the advisory board of Amplify and helped develop one curriculum. He was able to get information on Illustrative Math. The committee decided to stay with the Center for Mathematics Education. CME focuses on inquiry, discovery, and collaboration to develop a deep understanding of mathematics. BSD has been at or near the top of algebra end of course test scores in Missouri for nearly a decade. BSD will continue to use Blitzer's college algebra and pre-calculus texts and Stewart's calculus text. BSD will use the Starnes, Tabor, and Wilcox statistics text. BSD will continue to use the Stanford coding text. Dr. Tripamer said he will provide a link to the coding book.

Mr. Slusser asked about calculus AB and BC. Mr. Schmidt said Stewart's calculus text covers both areas and could be used if BSD adds another calculus course.

Ms. Trostel asked if math is successful because of the texts or changes in scope. Mr. Schmidt said providing students the opportunity to study and explore yields positive results.

Dr. Tripamer invited Board members to review the curriculum information. Dr. Lane said the vote will take place at the March business meeting.

ACTION 152
Approval of Declaration
of Surplus Items

Dr. Lane presented a list of items compiled by Mr. Andrew Hartnett, Facilities Manager that BSD would like to have declared as surplus. The items have been stored in the warehouse for a number of years and have no re-sale value. Warehouse space is needed to store the new playground equipment for McGrath. In the past, items declared as surplus that still had value were listed for sale on a government website or the district held a warehouse sale. Dr. Lane said BSD has contacted St. Mary Magdalen to see if they might have interest in any of the items.

The motion was made by Mr. Slusser and seconded by Ms. Nehrt to approve the declaration of the list of items as surplus. Ms. Spencer asked if BSD would consider donating any of the items to not-profit organizations. Dr. Lane said yes, if the recipient had the ability to pick up the items. Mr. Slusser said he assumed that none of the items were purchased with Federal money that would have stipulations regarding the declaration. Dr. Lane said Mr. Slusser's assumption was correct. The motion passed by a 6-0 voice vote.

MSBA Delegate Report

Mr. Rabenberg attended a Missouri House Education Committee meeting and a Senate hearing. He said proposed legislation included moving school board elections from April to November; having school board candidates declare a party affiliation; and making school board member recall elections available. Mr. Rabenberg believes these changes would be a waste of time and money. He said MSBA does not believe much legislation would be accomplished during this term. Dr. Lane and Mr. Slusser noted that the legislative re-districting process and re-election campaigns may also affect what is accomplished. Mr. Rabenberg and Ms. Spencer plan to attend the upcoming MSBA Legislative Forum.

Update
Board Committees

Ms. Nehrt said the Curriculum Committee did not have meetings scheduled.

Ms. Trostel would like to schedule another Communications Committee meeting. Mr. Rayburn said that Shawn Parker, IT Director, has been working with BHS clubs and virtual author visits at McGrath. Mr. Rayburn has been working with the librarians on library communications projects. Communications Committee members will meet. Ms. Trostel wants to make sure the programs keep moving forward.

Upcoming Events

- Board Policy Meeting, Tuesday, March 1 at 7:00 p.m.
- MSBA Board Candidate Webinar, Wednesday, March 2 at 6:00 p.m.
- MSBA Legislative Forum, Monday, March 7 at 9:00 a.m. in Jefferson City
- Board Business Meeting, Tuesday, March 15 at 7:00 p.m.
- MSBA Region 7 Meeting, Monday, March 28 at 5:45 p.m. at Riverview Gardens
- St. Louis County Board/Community Learning (Dr. Lane has details)

ACTION 153
Adjournment 8:35 p.m.

The motion was made by Mr. Slusser and seconded by Ms. Nehrt to adjourn and reconvene in closed session. The motion passed by a 6-0 roll call vote.



President

Secretary

