

**BETHANY BOARD OF EDUCATION
Regular Meeting**

AGENDA

**Thursday, July 20, 2023
6:30 p.m.**

Bethany Community School Learning Commons

MISSION STATEMENT

We inspire and empower children to thrive in the world of tomorrow.

1. Call to Order

- a. Pledge of Allegiance

2. Public Comment (Policy 1120 & Bylaw 9325)

The Board of Education welcomes public comment. Individuals or groups may address the Board concerning any subject which is within the Board's jurisdiction. Three minutes will be allotted to each speaker and a maximum of fifteen minutes to each subject matter. The speaker is requested to state their name and address. [Submit a public comment online](#) to be read at the next available opportunity.

3. Approval of Minutes (Bylaw 9326)

- a. June 14, 2023 Regular Meeting Minutes Action Item

4. Unfinished Business (Bylaw 9300)

- a. None.

5. New Business (Bylaw 9300)

- a. None.

6. Administrative Reports (Policy 2500)

- a. Superintendent

7. Chairman Report (Bylaw 9121)

8. Correspondence (Bylaw 9300)

9. Public Comment (Policy 1120 & Bylaw 9325)

The Board of Education welcomes public comment. Individuals or groups may address the Board concerning any subject which is within the Board's jurisdiction. Three minutes will be allotted to each speaker and a maximum of fifteen minutes to each subject matter. The speaker is requested to state their name and address.

10. Meeting Adjourned

Memorandum



To: Board of Education Members

From: Kai Byrd, Superintendent

Date: July 20, 2023

Re: Meeting Minutes

It is recommended under APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Recommended Motion:

- a. Move the Bethany Board of Education accept the June 14, 2023 Regular Meeting Minutes as presented.

BETHANY BOARD OF EDUCATION
Regular Meeting Minutes
BCS Learning Commons and via Live Stream
June 14, 2023

Present

Angelo Amato
Susan Bradford
John Paul Garcia
Amy Lestinsky
Chris Pittenger
Shawn Uscilla arrived at 6:35 pm

Administration

Kai Byrd
Cheryl Kiesel
Tom Reed-Swale

Absent

EJ Maher
Lynette White
Namita Wijesekera

Call to Order

Dr. Pittenger called the meeting to order at 6:33 p.m.

Student Presentation

Madison Wampler raised \$1,300 to donate to BCS in support of accessible improvements to the playground.

Student Recognition

Henry Savo, Elango Krishnamoorthy, and Elakiya Krishnamoorthy were recognized as the 2022-2023 BCS Invention Convention State Finalists.

PTO Report

Mrs. Zaldo reported on recent and upcoming PTO events.

Public Comment

James Bruni, 62 Humiston Drive

Minutes

Motion by Garcia, seconded by Lestinsky to accept the May 10, 2023 Regular Meeting Minutes as presented. *The motion carries 5 yes (Amato, Bradford, Garcia, Lestinsky, Pittenger), 1 abstain (Uscilla), 3 absent (Maher, White, Wijesekera).*

Committee Reports

ACES:

Ms. Bradford reported on 2 recent meetings that she attended.

Curriculum:

The committee has not met recently.

Facilities:

The committee has not met recently.

Finance:

Motion by Garcia, seconded by Lestinsky to accept the report of expenditures and adjustments to the 2022-2023 Operating Budget through May 31, 2023 as presented. *The motion carries 6 yes (Amato, Bradford, Garcia, Lestinsky, Pittenger, Uscilla), 3 absent (Maher, White, Wijesekera).*

Negotiations:

Paraprofessional negotiations have concluded and a contract proposal is being presented under New Business. Teacher Negotiations began earlier this week. Additional meetings have been scheduled in August and September.

Policy:

The committee has not met recently.

Transportation:

The committee has not met recently.

Unfinished Business	None.
New Business	Motion by Pittenger, seconded by Garcia to approve the collective bargaining agreement between the Board of Education and Paraprofessional CSEA, SEIU Local 2001 effective July 1, 2023 through June 30, 2026. <i>The motion carries 6 yes (Amato, Bradford, Garcia, Lestinsky, Pittenger, Uscilla), 3 absent (Maher, White, Wijesekera).</i>
Superintendent Report	<p>Mrs. Byrd announced that Kindergarten Teacher, Rebecca Grayeb was named the 2024 BCS Teacher of the Year, and BOE Office Assistant/Foodservice Coordinator, Donna Ricciardi was named the 2024 Staff Member of the Year.</p> <p>Mrs. Byrd reported that on May 31, 2023, PK-6 enrollment was 435 students.</p> <p>Mrs. Byrd stated that Kindergarten projections are 56 students at this time. Her recommendation is to add a fourth section to Kindergarten.</p> <p>Mrs. Byrd reported three paraprofessional resignations.</p> <p>Mrs. Byrd announced that Matthew Bruder, IT Director received a grant in the amount of \$65,545 to enhance District technology.</p> <p>Mrs. Byrd stated that the Pavilion has been cleared for use though some cosmetic items still need to be completed. She also announced that the Portable classroom will be removed over the summer.</p> <p>Mrs. Byrd recognized and thanked the Amity High School interns that recently shadowed BCS teachers and staff.</p>
Director Report	Ms. Kiesel reported on Curriculum and Special Services. Her report is on file in the BOE Packet. Ms. Kiesel recognized the excellence of the BCS staff.
Principal Report	Mr. Reed-Swale reported on BCS's recent and upcoming events. Mr. Reed-Swale's report is on file in the BOE Packet. Mr. Reed-Swale also recognized the staff.
Chairman Report	<p>Dr. Pittenger thanked Kai, teachers, and staff for the successful school year.</p> <p>Dr. Pittenger stated the Board of Education completes a self-evaluation once a year and sets their annual goals. The Board goals are reviewed mid-year as well. The Superintendent is evaluated twice during the school year and sets her goals based on the feedback from the Board.</p>
Communications	None.
Public Comment	None.

Executive Session

Motion by Pittenger, seconded by Uscilla that the Board of Education enter into Executive Session to discuss the Superintendent's Evaluation, Contract, and Salary and that Kai Byrd is invited to attend. *The motion carries 6 yes (Amato, Bradford, Garcia, Lestinsky, Pittenger, Uscilla), 3 absent (Maher, White, Wijesekera).*

Present

Angelo Amato
Susan Bradford
John Paul Garcia
Amy Lestinsky
Chris Pittenger
Shawn Uscilla

Other

Kai Byrd

Absent

EJ Maher
Lynette White
Namita Wijesekera

Reconvene

Moved from Executive Session and the regular meeting reconvened at 9:15 pm.

Motion by Pittenger, seconded by Garcia that the Board of Education approve the Superintendent's 2023-2024 salary agreement to include a one-year contract extension to 2026, a 4% base salary increase, and 5 carryover vacation days. *The motion carries 6 yes (Amato, Bradford, Garcia, Lestinsky, Pittenger, Uscilla), 3 absent (Maher, White, Wijesekera).*

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 9:17 p.m.

Susan L. Carpenter
Recording Secretary

Memorandum



To: Board of Education Members

From: Kai Byrd, Superintendent

Date: July 20, 2023

Re: Superintendent Report

Under ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS:

- Enrollment Update
- Personnel Update
- Facilities Update