

**BETHANY BOARD OF EDUCATION
Regular Meeting**

AGENDA

**Wednesday, November 8, 2023
6:30 p.m.**

Bethany Community School Learning Commons

[Live Stream Link](#)

MISSION STATEMENT

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

1. Call to Order

- a. Pledge of Allegiance

2. PTO Report

3. Presentation

- a. Student Achievement by Mr. Reed-Swale and BCS Staff

4. 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.

5. Approval of Minutes (Bylaw 9326)

- a. October 11, 2023 Regular Meeting MinutesAction Item

6. Committee Reports (Bylaw 9132)

- a. ACES
- b. Curriculum
- c. Facilities
- d. Finance

i. Report of expenditures and adjustments to the 2023-2024 Operating Budget through October 31, 2023.....Action Item

- e. Policy
- f. Transportation

7. Unfinished Business (Bylaw 9300)

- a. None.

8. New Business (Bylaw 9300)

- a 2024-2025 School Calendar Discussion

9. Administrative Reports (Policy 2500)

- a Superintendent
- b. Director of Special Services, Curriculum, and Instruction
- c. Principal

10. Chairman Report (Bylaw 9121)

11. Correspondence (Bylaw 9300)

12. 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.

13. Meeting Adjourned

Memorandum



To: Board of Education Members

From: Kai Byrd, Superintendent

Date: November 8, 2023

Re: Meeting Minutes

It is recommended under APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Recommended Motion:

- a. Move the Bethany Board of Education accept the October 11, 2023 Regular Meeting Minutes as presented.

BETHANY BOARD OF EDUCATION
Regular Meeting Minutes
BCS Learning Commons
October 11, 2023

Present

Angelo Amato
Susan Bradford
Amy Lestinsky
EJ Maher
Chris Pittenger
Lynette White
Namita Wijesekera arrived at 6:41 pm

Administration

Kai Byrd
Cheryl Kiesel
Tom Reed-Swale

Absent

John Paul Garcia
Shawn Uscilla

- Call to Order** Dr. Pittenger called the meeting to order at 6:33 p.m. A moment of silence was held for the Israel victims.
- PTO Report** Mrs. Zaldo reported on recent and upcoming PTO events.
- Public Comment** None.
- Minutes** **Motion** by Lestinsky, seconded by White to accept the September 13, 2023 Regular Meeting Minutes as amended. *The motion carries 5 yes (Bradford, Lestinsky, Maher, Pittenger, White), 1 abstain (Amato), 3 absent (Garcia, Uscilla, Wijesekera).*
- Committee Reports**
- ACES:** Ms. Bradford reported on the meeting where the focus was on enrollment and the Executive Board was elected.
- Curriculum:** The committee met and received an update on Curriculum, Professional Learning, and the Math program.
- Facilities:** The committee has not met recently.
- Finance:** **Motion** by Maher, seconded by Wijesekera to accept the report of expenditures and adjustments to the 2023-2024 Operating Budget through September 30, 2023 as presented. *The motion carries 7 yes (Amato, Bradford, Lestinsky, Maher, Pittenger, White, Wijesekera), 2 absent (Garcia, Uscilla).*
- Policy:** The committee has not met recently.
- Transportation:** The committee has not met recently.
- Unfinished Business** **Motion** by Maher, seconded by Amato to adopt the 2023-2024 Board of Education Goals as presented. *The motion carries 7 yes (Amato, Bradford, Lestinsky, Maher, Pittenger, White, Wijesekera), 2 absent (Garcia, Uscilla).*

New Business

Motion by Pittenger, seconded by Maher to approve the contract between the Bethany Education Association and the Board of Education effective July 1, 2024 through June 30, 2027. *The motion carries 7 yes (Amato, Bradford, Lestinsky, Maher, Pittenger, White, Wijesekera), 2 absent (Garcia, Uscilla).*

Superintendent Report

Mrs. Byrd reported that on September 30, 2023, PK-6 enrollment was 445 students.

Mrs. Byrd announced newly hired staff members.

Mrs. Byrd stated the 2024-2025 budget timeline.

Director Report

Ms. Kiesel 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 BCS events. Mr. Reed-Swale's report is on file in the BOE Packet.

Chairman Report

Dr. Pittenger stated the Fall Open Forum will be held on October 24, 2023 at 6:30 pm via Zoom.

Dr. Pittenger encouraged Board members to attend the CABA Conference on November 17 and 18, 2023 in Mystic.

Communications

None.

Public Comment

Shannon Lane, 168 Miller Road.
Jamie Stirling, 20 Miller Road.
Melissa Zaldo, 191 Beacon Road
James Bruni, 62 Humiston Drive.

Executive Session

Motion by Pittenger, seconded by Lestinsky that the Board of Education enter into an Executive Session to discuss the Superintendent's Goals and that Kai Byrd is invited to attend. *The motion carries 7 yes (Amato, Bradford, Lestinsky, Maher, Pittenger, White, Wijesekera), 2 absent (Garcia, Uscilla).*

Present

Angelo Amato
Susan Bradford
Amy Lestinsky
Chris Pittenger
Lynette White
Namita Wijesekera

Other

Kai Byrd

Absent

John Paul Garcia
EJ Maher
Shawn Uscilla

Reconvene

Moved from Executive Session and the regular meeting reconvened at 8:09 p.m.

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 8:10 p.m.

Susan L. Carpenter
Recording Secretary

Memorandum



To: Board of Education Members

From: Kai Byrd, Superintendent

Date: November 8, 2023

Re: Finance Committee Report of Expenditures and Adjustments

It is recommended that under COMMITTEE REPORTS, (a) Finance:

The attached reports present the adopted 2023-2024 Operating Budget with encumbrances through October 31, 2023.

Recommended Motions:

- i. Move that the Board of Education accept the report of expenditures and adjustments to the 2023-2024 Operating Budget through October 31, 2023.

Bethany Board of Education
Operating Budget 2023-2024 Summary - as of October 2023

	Adopted Budget	Revised Budget	YTD July-June	Forecast	Var\$ Sept	Var% Sept	Var\$ Oct	Var% Oct
General Education								
Salaries								
Certified	\$2,239,147	\$2,286,089	\$448,572	\$2,280,629	\$ 5,460	0.24%	\$ 5,460	0.24%
Curriculum (Supplemental)	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$ -	#DIV/0!	\$ -	#DIV/0!
Non-Certified	\$261,922	\$258,624	\$46,760	\$223,517	\$ 35,107	13.57%	\$ 35,107	13.57%
Nurse	\$54,057	\$54,058	\$9,522	\$54,058	\$ -	0.00%	\$ -	0.00%
Total Salaries	\$2,555,126	\$2,598,770	\$504,854	\$2,558,203	\$ 40,567	1.56%	\$ 40,567	1.56%
Benefits	\$502,865	\$439,519	\$146,496	\$439,519	\$ -	0.00%	\$ -	0.00%
Services								
BCS	\$5,800	\$5,800	\$302	\$5,800	\$ -	0.00%	\$ -	0.00%
Curriculum	\$94,012	\$94,012	\$58,830	\$94,012	\$ -	0.00%	\$ -	0.00%
IT	\$52,600	\$52,600	\$37,541	\$52,600	\$ -	0.00%	\$ -	0.00%
Total Services	\$152,412	\$152,412	\$96,673	\$152,412	\$ -	0.00%	\$ -	0.00%
Supplies								
BCS	\$65,380	\$65,380	\$34,283	\$65,380	\$ -	0.00%	\$ -	0.00%
Curriculum	\$5,646	\$5,646	\$2,400	\$5,646	\$ -	0.00%	\$ -	0.00%
IT	\$111,270	\$113,868	\$96,392	\$113,868	\$ -	0.00%	\$ -	0.00%
Total Supplies	\$182,296	\$184,894	\$133,075	\$184,894	\$ -	0.00%	\$ -	0.00%
Other								
BCS	\$1,550	\$1,550	\$125	\$1,550	\$ -	0.00%	\$ -	0.00%
Curriculum	\$650	\$650	\$0	\$650	\$ -	0.00%	\$ -	0.00%
IT	\$31,250	\$31,250	\$31,604	\$31,250	\$ -	0.00%	\$ -	0.00%
Total Other	\$33,450	\$33,450	\$31,729	\$33,450	\$ -	0.00%	\$ -	0.00%
Subtotal	\$3,426,149	\$3,409,045	\$912,828	\$3,368,478	\$ 40,567	1.19%	\$ 40,567	1.19%
Special Education								
Salaries	\$1,333,108	\$1,362,993	\$328,692	\$1,363,935	\$ (942)	-0.07%	\$ (942)	-0.07%
Benefits	\$294,914	\$269,430	\$82,715	\$246,430	\$ -	0.00%	\$ 23,000	8.54%
Services	\$397,265	\$397,265	\$34,995	\$411,455	\$ -	0.00%	\$ (14,190)	-3.57%
Supplies	\$7,064	\$7,064	\$4,915	\$7,064	\$ -	0.00%	\$ -	0.00%
Other	\$2,852	\$2,852	\$830	\$2,852	\$ -	0.00%	\$ -	0.00%
Subtotal	\$2,035,203	\$2,039,604	\$452,147	\$2,031,736	\$ (942)	-0.05%	\$ 7,868	0.39%
Operations and Overhead								
Salaries	\$1,050,846	\$1,039,336	\$341,604	\$1,065,617	\$ (35,107)	-3.38%	\$ (26,281)	-2.53%
Benefits	\$248,635	\$267,848	\$62,377	\$245,198	\$ -	0.00%	\$ 22,650	8.46%
Services	\$169,229	\$174,229	\$100,855	\$174,474	\$ (245)	-0.14%	\$ (245)	-0.14%
Supplies	\$44,800	\$44,800	\$11,620	\$44,800	\$ -	0.00%	\$ -	0.00%
Utilities (Electricity)	\$120,000	\$120,000	\$30,321	\$120,000	\$ -	0.00%	\$ -	0.00%
Facilities and Maintenance	\$131,330	\$131,330	\$65,027	\$131,330	\$ -	0.00%	\$ -	0.00%
Student Transportation	\$291,678	\$291,678	\$57,736	\$ 291,678.00	\$ -	0.00%	\$ -	0.00%
Other	\$20,725	\$20,725	\$13,208	\$ 20,904.00	\$ (179)	-0.86%	\$ (179)	-0.86%
Subtotal	\$2,077,243	\$2,089,946	\$682,748	\$ 2,094,000.37	\$ (35,531)	-1.70%	\$ (4,055)	-0.19%
Total	\$7,538,595	\$7,538,595	\$2,047,722	\$7,494,215	\$ 4,094	0.05%	\$ 44,380	0.59%

excess cost =
#1 rcv'd=
#2 rcv'd =
Total =

Memorandum



To: Board of Education Members

From: Kai Byrd, Superintendent

Date: November 8, 2023

Re: Superintendent Report

Under ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS:

- Enrollment Update
- Personnel Update
- 2024-2025 Budget Development

**BETHANY COMMUNITY SCHOOL
2023 -2024 ENROLLMENT SUMMARY**

Grade (Sections)	08/31/2023	09/30/2023	10/31/2023
PK	28	27	28
K (4)	54	55	55
1 (3)	44	44	44
2 (3)	60	60	60
3 (3)	53	53	53
4 (4)	76	76	76
5 (3)	64	64	64
6 (3)	66	66	66
TOTAL (23)	445	445	446

* Six Open Choice students included.

2022-2023 ENROLLMENT SUMMARY			
Grade (Sections)	08/31/2022*	09/30/2022*	10/31/2022*
PK	27	26	27
K (3)	44	43	43
1 (3)	56	56	56
2 (3)	54	54	54
3 (4)	71	72	73
4 (3)	65	66	66
5 (3)	64	65	65
6 (2)	47	47	47
TOTAL (21)	428	429	431

* Six Open Choice students included.

2021-2022 ENROLLMENT SUMMARY			
Grade (Sections)	08/31/2021*	09/30/2021*	10/31/2021*
PK	16	17	19
K (3)	50	49	50
1 (3)	51	51	51
2 (4)	66	66	66
3 (3)	57	57	57
4 (3)	58	59	59
5 (2)	40	40	42
6 (3)	49	49	50
TOTAL (21)	387	388	394

*Five Open Choice students included
One OOD student is not included above

Memorandum



To: Board of Education Members

From: Cheryl Kiesel

Date: November 8, 2023

Re: Director of Special Services, Curriculum, and Instruction Report

Under ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS:

- **Curriculum**
 - Professional Development
 - Grant Update

- **Special Education**
 - Department Updates

Memorandum



To: Board of Education Members

From: Tom Reed-Swale

Date: November 8, 2023

Re: Principal's Report

Under ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS:

- BCS Happenings