



Bensenville Elementary School District
Board of Education Regular Meeting
Minutes - September 21, 2022

President, Dr. Chris McCullough called the regular meeting of Bensenville Elementary School District 2 Board of Education, DuPage County to order at 7:00 p.m., at Educational Administration Center, 210 S. Church Road, Bensenville, Illinois.

Roll call verified that there was a quorum of the Board present with the following members present and absent as listed below:

Board of Education	Title	Present	Absent
Jacqueline Dye	Member	X	
Katie Krajecki	Member	X	
Bob Laudadio	Member	X	
Marisol Leyva	Secretary	X	
Chris McCullough	President	X	
Lori Parthimos	Treasurer	X	
James Stoltman	Vice-President	X	
Administration			
Dr. Katie McCluskey	Superintendent	X	
Mr. Paul Novack	C.F.O.	X	
EAC Staff			
Cindy Snyder	Administrative Asst. to the Superintendent & Clerk of the Board	X	

Staff in attendance: Joe West - BSD2 Tech team member, Anne Paonessa - Interim Director of Teaching & Learning, Dr. Perry Finch - Principal BMS, Carlos Patiño - Principal WAJ, Jeff Kersten -Principal Tioga, Tim Waldorf – Community Relations Coordinator.

Others in attendance: Naila Fonseca, Bonnie Lash

Pledge of Allegiance

Dr. McCullough led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Public comments – None

Public Hearing – 2021-2022 Annual School Budget

- Dr. McCullough open Public Hearing on the 2022-2023 Annual School Budget at 7:01. Mr. Novack presented the 2022-2023 Annual School Budget. Dr. McCullough asked if anyone had any questions or needed any clarification pertaining to the budget. Hearing none, Dr. McCullough closed the hearing and the returned to the Regular Board Meeting at 7:02 p.m.

Celebrations

- Dr. McCluskey reported on the 1st day of school for students and share a video.
- Dr. McCluskey reported Learning & Growing Together Day. Staff members wore their “Learning & Growing Together” t-shirts. A fun day for all students was had.

Presentations

- **5Essential Survey** - Dr. McCluskey reported on the 5Essential Survey and on the work, we are doing and how we are launching our work forward. 5Essentials is done each year. The window for completing this year is January 23 – March 31 of when parents, staff and students can complete this year’s survey.

Ms. Paonessa reported on completion rate. Her report also included on **Ambitious Instruction**, classes are challenging and engaging. It included information about **Effective Leaders**, principals and teachings work together to implement a shared vision. **Collaborative Teachers**, all teachers collaborate to promote professional growth.

Involved Families, the entire staff builds strong external relationships. And **Supportive Environment**, the school is safe, demanding and supportive.

- **Strategic Plan & Building SIP Plans** - Dr. McCluskey reported on the Strategic Plan & Building School Improvement Plans. Dr. McCluskey reviewed the Mission, Motto and Vision along with Beliefs. She reported that there 4 Strategic Priorities with Diversity and social emotion well-being will be incorporated in all decision making. The presentation tonight will be focused on the first two Strategic Priorities. Which includes District Curriculum, District Climate and Culture and

Ms. Paonessa presented the District **Curriculum** – Action Steps 2022-2023. The report contained the Strategic Priority, Strategic Indicated, Strategic Objective, Actions and Responsible Person.

1. We will engage all students with diverse learning experiences from an appropriately aligned and challenging curriculum.
 - Each of the principals presented their school action plans for Curriculum to the board. Mr. Patiño – WAJ, Mr. Kersten – Tioga and Dr. Finch – BMS.

Ms. Paonessa presented the District **Climate and Culture** – Action Steps 2022-2023. The report contained the Strategic Priority, Strategic Indicated, Strategic Objective, Actions and Responsible Person.

2. We will develop and maintain a positive climate and culture to meet the needs of all stakeholders.
 - Dr. McCluskey reported that under Climate and Culture is a Strategic Priority, School Safety and Security. She reviewed the details with the board.
 - Each of the principals presented their school action plans for Climate and Culture to the board. Mr. Patiño – WAJ, Mr. Kersten – Tioga and Dr. Finch – BMS.

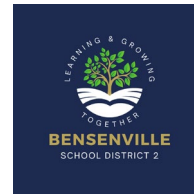
Board Committee Reports

- A. **Announcements** – none

Administrative Reports

- A. **Announcements**

- **District 2 New Logo** – Dr. McCluskey revealed the new logo.



- B. **FOIA Report** – Mr. Novack reported that there have been four since last month.

1. SEIU Local 1 – Union – contract(s) with all entities proving janitorial, maintenance and/or cleaning services.
2. SmartProcure – Commerical – purchasing records from 5/31 - date
3. School District 15 - Other Public – Invoices for consulting services
4. Red Group Analytics – Commerical – agendas & minutes for 2008-2013 and board service records for Rev. Luis Reyes during same period.

- C. **Enrollment Report** – Dr. McCluskey reported that there are 2082 students receiving services from BSD2. Slightly less than 2021-2022. There are 55 students in the Headstart Program at Tioga. Mrs. Krajecki commented on the size of some of the 5th grade classrooms.

Consent Item:

- A. **Approval of Minutes**

1. Regular Board of Education Meeting – August 17, 2022

Recommendation: The Board of Education approves the above listed minutes as presented and attached.

- B. **Approval of Financial Reports**

1. Bills August 2022
 - a. Accounts Payable
 - b. Imprest Checks

- c. Advanced Checks
2. Financial Statements as of August 31, 2022

Recommendation: The Board of Education approves the above listed financial reports as presented and attached.

C: Personnel

I. Resignation of Classified Staff

Recommendation: That the Board of Education accepts the resignations of the following classified staff members:

1. Sonia Navarro, Special Education Paraprofessional, Tioga School, effective August 30, 2022.
2. Refugio Vazquez, Breakfast/Lunch Supervisor, Tioga School, effective August 15, 2022.

II. Ratification of Employment – Classified Staff

Recommendation: That the Board of Education ratifies the employment of the following classified staff:

1. Jewellester Carney, Lunch/Recess Supervisor, Tioga School, effective August 30, 2022.
2. Fatima Castro, Special Education Academic Life Skills Paraprofessional, Blackhawk Middle School, effective September 26, 2022.
3. Vivian Echeverria, Academic Life Skills Special Education Paraprofessional, Blackhawk Middle School, effective September 26, 2022.
4. Alexi Littmann, Part-Time Special Education Paraprofessional, Blackhawk Middle School, effective September 12, 2022.
5. Kristen Perkins, Lunch/Recess Supervisor, Tioga School, effective September 12, 2022.
6. Giuseppina Porcelli, Pre-K Paraprofessional, Tioga School, effective August 24, 2022.
7. Maria Cristina Reyes, Lead Site Coordinator, Tioga School, effective September 6, 2022
8. Isabel Santoyo-Reyes, PreK Special Education Paraprofessional, Tioga School, effective September 6, 2022.
9. Miljana Simonovic, Crossing Guard/Lunch Recess, Tioga School, effective September 13, 2022.

III. Approval of Long-Term Substitute

Recommendation: That the Board of Education ratifies the employment of the following long-term substitutes:

1. Kim Glomp, long-term substitute for a 4th grade classroom, Tioga School, effective August 15, 2022.
2. Raecheal Karas, 5th Grade classroom teacher at Johnson School, effective the end of October, 2022.

IV. Other Changes in Classified Staff Compensation

Recommendation: That the Board of Education adopt the hourly rates for Annamarie Mendoza-\$19.00, Health Aide at Johnson & Tioga Schools, and for Gloria Escalante- \$18.38, Clerical Aide at Tioga School, both effective October 1, 2022.

V. Extra Duty Stipends

Recommendation: That the Board of Education approves the attached list of extra duty stipends for the 2022-2023 school year.

VI. Bereavement Practices for Classified Staff and Administrators

Illinois law permits District staff to use sick days upon the death of a family member. See [Policy 5:330](#) for the meaning of “family member.” broadened to include aunts, uncles, nieces, nephews, and cousins.

Recommendation: That the Board of Education approves the change in District practice for Bereavement for Classified Staff & Administrators.

VII. Short-Term Leave of Absence

Recommendation: That the Board of Education approve the short-term leave for the staff member to go back to their origin country for a few weeks.

D. Review of Compensation Report

Recommendation: That the Board of Education acknowledge review of the compensation report is presented and direct the administration to post on website.

E. Shared Service Report

Recommendation: That the Board of Education approve the Shared Service Report.

A motion was made by Mr. Laudadio and seconded by Mr. Stoltman that the Board of Education approve the consent agenda items as presented.

Roll Call Vote:

Aye: Laudadio, Stoltman, Dye, Krajecki, Leyva, McCullough, Parthimos

Nay: None

Absent: None

Motion Carried.

Conference/Action Item

A. Approval of the 2022-2023 Budget Resolution & Adoption – The Board held a public hearing concerning the budget on September 21. Public review of the tentative budget began on Monday, August 22. The required notice was published on August 19, 2022. After publication of the tentative budget, both revenues and expenses have been further revised for the final budget. The full budget document is linked [here](#).

- The budget surplus is about \$1,260,000. This amount is best considered in two parts: Operations and Construction.
 - For Operations, the projected surplus is about \$2,000,000, or 4.5% of revenue. See the next page.
 - For Construction, spending of about \$730,000 is projected. About three-fourths is for design costs for the Blackhawk renovation; the other one-fourth is for the final remaining PreK construction payments.
- Revenues are detailed on page 3.
 - Basic Operating Revenues are projected to decrease about \$750,000 from the prior year, or about 2%. The decrease is caused by certain property taxes that were received early (in June 2022) instead of this year (July 2022).
 - Special-purpose revenues are projected to increase about \$1,300,000. The COVID-recovery grants known as ESSER are in this group, as are grants for food service, Community Schools, and School Climate Transformation.
- Expenses are detailed on page 4.
 - Costs are projected to increase about \$3.8 million over the prior year, before allowing for contingencies.
- Fund balances are shown on page 5. They will all be positive.
- Contingencies of \$860,000 are included in expenditures.

This year's budget is the second one with substantial spending from the ESSERs grants. In general, those grants pay for expenses that would not otherwise have been incurred.

A motion was made by Mrs. Dye and seconded by Dr. McCullough that the Board of Education Adopt the [2022-23 Budget as presented](#).

Roll Call Vote:

Aye: Dye, McCullough, Krajecki, Laudadio, Leyva, Parthimos, Stoltman,

Nay: None

Absent: None

Motion Carried.

B. Certify Revenues by Source – Mr. Novack reported that the District files an estimate of revenues by source with the County Clerk's office, certified by the board's chief fiscal officer. This must be a separate document, even though this information is included in the budget.

Through the process of budget development, these sources are considered the best estimate of revenue to be received during the 2022-23 year.

A motion was made by Mr. Laudadio and seconded by Ms. Parthimos that the Board of Education certify that the anticipated revenues by source for 2022-23 shall be the revenues by source shown for each fund in the District's budget for 2022-23.

Roll Call Vote:

Aye: Laudadio, Parthimos, Dye, Krajecki, Leyva, McCullough, Stoltman,

Nay: None

Absent: None

Motion Carried.

C. Approval of Classified Staff Longevity Stipends – Dr. McCluskey reported that many of the District’s classified staff have served the District for five years or ten years or even longer. Their continued service is of great value to students, parents, and other staff.

A bonus payment is recommended to recognize long service to District 2. This payment would be paid in a lump sum each December, based on service as of November 30. The annual payments shown below are the total payment made each year (that is, the amounts are not cumulative).

	5-9 years	10-14 years	15-19 years	20-24 years	25+ years
12-month employees	\$550	\$850	\$1,150	\$1,450	\$1,750
10-month employees	\$500	\$750	\$1,000	\$1,250	\$1,500
Lunch Aides, Crossing Guards, and Bus Drivers	\$250	\$375	\$500	\$625	\$750

A motion was made by Mr. Stoltman and seconded by Mrs. Dye that the Board of Education approve the longevity bonuses proposed above for classified staff, effective December 2022.

Roll Call Vote:

Aye: Stoltman, Dye, Krajecki, Laudadio, Leyva, McCullough, Parthimos,

Nay: None

Absent: None

Motion Carried.

D. Ratification of Special Education Differentials – Dr. McCluskey reported that aides, sometimes called paraprofessionals, are essential to serving District 2 students. Aides support both the general education and special education populations, including English language learners in both groups. For special education students, these services are usually required by the students’ Individualized Education Plans (“IEP”).

Especially for special education students, many aide positions are still unfilled. The tight labor market means fewer applicants are available and they often have other choices of employment. The District competes for staff with other school districts and with non-educational employers.

To meet IEP service requirements, the District may need to re-assign some aides now serving the general education population.

Special education aides receive an extra \$750 per year compared to general education. This policy began last year.

The District proposes to replace the existing \$750 stipend for aides with two new stipends. This change will improve our hiring efforts and should help retain current staff.

Population Served	Pay Structure	Notes
General education students	\$16.00/hr is the starting rate. No stipend is paid.	This rate is the same as last year. A higher starting rate is paid for relevant experience.
Students with IEPs and students in multilingual programming	\$16.00/hr is the starting rate. The stipend is increased to \$1,300, which equals \$50 per pay period.	The \$1,300 stipend replace the \$750 stipend. It appears separately on each paycheck. The stipend is reduced for less than a full year worked.
Students with IEPs and with high needs	\$16.00/hr is the starting rate. The stipend is increased to \$1,950, which equals \$75 per pay period.	High-needs means students in self-contained classrooms or students needing support with toileting or feeding. It appears separately on each paycheck. The stipend is reduced for less than a full year worked.

A motion was made by Mrs. Dye and seconded by Mrs. Leyva that the Board of Education adopts a pay differential that recognizes the differences in work expectations for the 3 categories of paraprofessionals.

Roll Call Vote:

Aye: Dye, Leyva, Krajecki, Laudadio, McCullough, Parthimos, Stoltman,

Nay: None

Absent: None

Motion Carried.

E. **2nd Reading & Adoption of Policy Revisions** – Mr. Novack reported that these policies were presented at the August meeting and have been reviewed by our legal counsel. No changes have been made since 1st reading and are ready for adoption.

A motion was made by Mr. Stoltman and seconded by Mrs. Leyva that the Board of Education adopt the following revised policies.

1. Student Behavior and related topics

- [7-190, Behavior](#)
- [7-200, Suspensions](#)
- [7-210, Expulsions](#)
- [7-240, Conduct Code for Extra-Curricular Activities](#)

Roll Call Vote:

Aye: Stoltman, Leyva, Dye, Krajecki, Laudadio, McCullough, Parthimos,

Nay: None

Absent: None

Motion Carried.

A motion was made by Mrs. Krajecki and seconded by Mrs. Leyva that the Board of Education adopt the following revised policies.

2. Sexual Abuse Prevention

- [4-165, Awareness and Prevention of Child Sexual Abuse and Grooming Behavior](#)
- [5-90, Abused & Neglected Child Reporting](#)
- [5-100, Staff Training](#)
- [5-120, Employee Ethics and Conduct](#)
- [7-250, Student Support Services](#)

Roll Call Vote:

Aye: Krajecki, Leyva, Dye, Laudadio, McCullough, Parthimos, Stoltman,

Nay: None

Absent: None

Motion Carried.

New Business

- Mrs. Krajecki suggested that the administration look at substitute teacher pay.
- Mr. Novack reported that the Board will consider the property tax levy at its October and November meetings. Each year, the levy is estimated to increase by two factors. One is the Consumer Price Index (but not more than 5%). The other is a very small factor for new construction. The CPI factor will be 5% this year, for the first time in over 30 years. The total estimated increase will be about 5.25%. If the increase is above 5%, then before adopting it in November, the Board will hold a public hearing.

Closed Session:

At 8:26 p.m. motion was made by Mr. Stoltman and seconded by Mrs. Dye that the Board of Education go into closed session for the purpose of:

A. Potential Litigation, *when an action against, affecting or on behalf of the particular public body has been filed and is pending before a court or administrative tribunal, or when the public body finds that an action is probable or imminent, in which case the basis for the finding shall be recorded and entered into the minutes of the closed meeting. 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(11).*

and

B. Personnel - *The appointment, employment, compensation, discipline, performance, or dismissal of specific employees of the public body or legal counsel for the public body, including hearing testimony on a complaint lodged against an employee of the public body or against legal counsel for the public body to determine its validity. 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(1).*

Roll Call Vote:

Aye: Stoltman, Dye, Krajecki, Laudadio, Leyva, McCullough, Parthimos,

Nay: None

Absent: None

Motion Carried.

At 8:41 p.m. motion was made by Mrs. Krajecki and seconded by Mr. Laudadio that the Board of Education adjourn from closed session. Upon voice vote, all board members present voted aye. Motion carried.

Adjournment

At 8:41 p.m. a motion was made by Ms. Parthimos and seconded by Mr. Stoltman that the Board of Education adjourn the meeting. Upon voice vote, all board members present voted aye. Motion carried.

No further business appearing Dr. McCullough adjourned the meeting at 8:41 p.m.

President

Secretary