



Bensenville Elementary School District

Board of Education Regular Meeting

Minutes - September 15, 2021

President, Dr. Chris McCullough called the regular meeting of Bensenville Elementary School District 2 Board of Education, DuPage County to order at 7:00p.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
Christina Cannon Bailey	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. Ray Lechner	Interim Co-Superintendent	X	
Mr. Paul Novack	C.F.O.	X	
EAC Staff			
Cindy Snyder	Administrative Asst. to the Superintendent & Clerk of the Board	X	
Tim Waldorf	Community Relations Coordinator	X	

Staff in attendance: Joe West - BSD2 Tech team member, Ms. Anne Paonessa – Interim Director of Teaching & Learning, Dr. Perry Finch - Principal Blackhawk Middle School, Ms. Nicole Mrowice Asst. Principal Blackhawk Middle School, Missy Baglarz - Director of MTSS, Angie Adams & Kristen Fedor Math Specialists, Craig Baker & Cora Popescu BMS Math Teachers.

Dr. McCullough led all in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Public Comments: none

Board President, Dr. McCullough, read a statement regarding upcoming board activities.

Public Hearing – 2021-2022 Annual School Budget

Dr. McCullough, Board President opened the Public Hearing on the 2021-2022 Annual School Budget at 7:08 p.m.

Mr. Novack present the 2021-2022 Annual School Budget. Dr. McCullough asked for Audience Participation, questions and clarification. Hearing none, Dr. McCullough closed the hearing and returned to Regular Board Meeting at 7:09 p.m.

Presentation

A. Teaching & Learning Update – Ms. Anne Paonessa, Interim Director of Teaching & Learning along with Mrs. Angie Adams, Ms. Kristen Fedor, Mrs. Cora Popescu and Mr. Craig Baker presented information on the Math Program of the District.

Administrative Reports

A. 2021 Summer School Report – Mrs. Mrowice, 2021 Summer School Principal presented information on the 2021 Summer School program.

- B. Enrollment Report** – Dr. Lechner reported that there are 2001 students enrolled plus 48 in Birth-3 program, 6 Itinerant and 56 in Headstart give a total of 2111 students receiving services.
- C. FOIA Report** – Mr. Novack reported that there was 1 FOIA from DuPage Policy Journal.
- D. 2021-2022 District Plan** – Dr. Lechner reported that when the Interim Superintendents arrived in July they met with each board member, each administrative team members and union leaders were asked to identify individual wish list items. The wish list items were shared with the administrative team in August. The administrative team reviewed and identified several themes that became 12 goals for the 2021-2022 school year. This list became the short-term Strategic Plan for this school year. Quarterly updates will be given to the board on those items, next update will be in December.
- E. 2021-2022 In-Person Reopening Plan** – Dr. Lechner reported that we must prioritize the safety and welfare of our students and staff that support them. We follow the IDPH and DCHD guidelines. We reflect on our implementation practices on how we communicate those practices to staff and parents. The questions we receive guide our next steps in implementation. Communication is the key. We will continue to solicit feedback from our stakeholders.

Consent Items

A. Approval of Minutes

1. Regular Board of Education Meeting – August 18, 2021
2. Special Board of Education Meeting – September 1, 2021
3. Special Board of Education Meeting – September 1, 2021 – closed session
4. Regular Workshop Board of Education Meeting – September 1, 2021

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

B. Approval of Bills & Financial Reports

1. Bills
 - a. Accounts Payable
 - b. Imprest Checks
 - c. Advanced Checks
 - d. Construction Checks
2. Treasurer's Cash Report as of August, 2021
3. Investment Summary as of August 31, 2021
4. Tax Distribution Report as of August 31, 2021
5. Activity Fund Report August, 2021
6. Financial Statements as of August 31, 2021

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 resignation of the following classified staff member:

1. Anarlet Fernandez, Bilingual Kindergarten aide, Tioga School, effective September 8, 2021.

I. Ratification of Employment for 2021-2022, Certified Staff

Recommendation: That the Board of Education approves the employment of the following certified staff member:

1. Sabrina Herrera, Social Worker, Tioga School, effective September 13, 2021.

II. Ratification of Employment – Classified Staff

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

1. Gloria Arzet, Language Assistant, Johnson School, effective September 20, 2021.
2. Jill Herrera, Special Education Paraprofessional, Tioga School, effective September 22, 2021.
3. Daniela Loza, 2nd Grade Paraprofessional, Tioga School, effective September 13, 2021.
4. Ana Padilla, Lunch/Recess Aide, Tioga School, effective September 13, 2021
5. Gina Tomasello, Special Education Paraprofessional, Johnson School, effective September 27, 2021.

III. Extra Duty Stipends

Recommendation: That the Board of Education approves the attached list of extra duty stipends for the 2021-2022 school year.

IV. Approval of Professional Development Plan for the District’s Special Education Director

Recommendation: That the Board of Education approves the professional development opportunity for Ms. Juliann Greene, the District’s Director of Special Education at Northern Illinois University, Naperville Campus.

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. Gift Acceptance

Recommendation: That the Board of Education accept the \$3,000 donation from Grand Subaru as described.

F. Shared Service Report

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

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

Roll Call Vote:

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

Nay: None

Absent: Cannon Bailey,

Motion Carried.

Conference/Action Item

A. Approval of the 2021-2022 Budget Resolution & Adoption – Mr. Novack reported that the public hearing was held earlier in the meeting. The budget was on public review as of Monday, August 16. The required notice was published on August 13, 2021. Since the tentative budget, expenses were added for ESSER 3 and for compensation, and revenues were added for ESSER 3.

Mr. Novack reported that construction spending for the PreK addition is projected to be about \$3.7M. About half of this will be paid from 2020 bond proceeds and the balance will be paid from cash saved in prior years.

The following items do not include the costs related to PreK construction.

- An operating surplus is projected of about \$1.4 million, or 3.4% of revenue. See the next page.
- Revenues are detailed on page 3.
 - Basic Operating Revenues are projected to increase about \$800,000 from the prior year, or about 2.2%.
 - Special-purpose revenues are projected to increase about \$500,000. The COVID-recovery grants known as ESSER are in this group.
- Expenses are detailed on page 4.
 - Costs are projected to increase about \$2.4 million over the prior year, before allowing for contingencies. About \$0.9 million of this relates to ESSER.
- Fund balances are shown on page 5.
 - They will all be positive. The Retirement/Social Security fund will be close to zero at year-end, which is an intentional part of cash management.
- Contingencies of about \$800,000 are included.

Mr. Novack also reported that this year's budget is the first one with material revenue from the ESSERs grants. This revenue will continue for two additional years. In general, it pays for expenses that would not otherwise have been incurred.

A motion was made by Mr. Stoltman and seconded by Mr. Laudadio that the Board of Education approve the 2021-2022 Budget as presented.

Roll Call Vote:

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

Nay: None

Absent: Cannon Bailey,

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.

Mr. Novack reported that through the process of budget development, these sources are considered the best estimate of revenue to be received during the 2021-22 year.

A motion was made by Mr. Stoltman and seconded by Mrs. Leyva that the Board of Education certify that the anticipated revenues by source for 2021-22 shall be the revenues by source shown for each fund in the District's budget for 2021-22.

Roll Call Vote:

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

Nay: None

Absent: Cannon Bailey,

Motion Carried.

- C. Authorize District's application for the School Maintenance Project Grant - Mr. Novack reported that** the District is applying for a \$50,000 State grant related to the roof replacement project at the Educational Administration Center. Applications are due October 8 for Round 1 of the 2022 School Maintenance Project Grant. ISBE expects that all applicants will receive an award.

Mr. Novack reported that ISBE requires three Board actions for each grant application: authorize the project, reserve the local share of funding, and authorize grant documentation to be submitted. The President is asked to execute the “District Certification”, which incorporates the “Grant Application Certifications and Assurances” and the “Program Specific/Financial Assurances for School Maintenance Project Grant”.

Mr. Novack also reported that the designated project will replace the roof at the EAC. The project cost is estimated to be \$117,000. The local funding is \$67,000, to be reserved in the Operations and Maintenance Fund.

This grant application considers only the roof sections owned by the District. As discussed before, the project also includes the LLC, an area owned by the Library and for which the District will contribute half the cost. That area is excluded from the grant application.

A motion was made by Mr. Laudadio and seconded by Ms. Parthimos that the Board authorize the renovation project, reserve the local funding as described, authorize the President to make the certifications required by ISBE, and authorize Administration to complete all other portions of the grant application.

Roll Call Vote:

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

Nay: None

Absent: Cannon Bailey,

Motion Carried.

D. Change Order(s) – Mr. Novack reported that change orders exceeding \$10,000 are governed by statute and presented to the Board. Such a change should be approved only if at least one of the following is true: the change is in the District’s best interest; or it is germane to the original contract; or it was not reasonably foreseeable at the time the contract was signed. Smaller change orders and allowances are approved by the Chief Financial Officer.

Mr. Novack reported that these contract changes exceeding \$10,000 are presented for Board approval.

Nature of Change	Work Performed & Contractor’s Name	Amount Added (Removed)	Reasons to Approve the Change
Improve soil conditions to support building weight, based on recommendations by soil testing engineers, SRN Testing. The original soil could not be properly compacted, because it contained building debris from prior demolitions and low-compaction organic material that	DiMeo Brothers: remove non-compactible fill, 1,235 cubic yards, and deposit additional gravel at specified locations, 58 cubic yards.	\$36,385	These changes are in the District’s best interest and are germane to the original contracts for site work and concrete work. The quantity of unacceptable fill was not foreseeable when the contract was signed.
	Alright Concrete: additional concrete where soil was removed	\$6,350	

probably pre-dates the first building at that site.			
Lengthen accessible curb and adjacent sloped sidewalk along south drive at request of County reviewers.	Alright Concrete	\$5,450	This change is in the District's best interest, is germane to the original contract for concrete work, and was not reasonably foreseeable when the contract was signed.
Add accessible curbs and replace asphalt sidewalk where walkway crosses south drive and enters the southwest parking lot. The new curbs meet code requirements; the prior curbs were exempt.	Alright Concrete	\$4,460	This change is in the District's best interest, is germane to the original contract for concrete work, and was not reasonably foreseeable when the contract was signed.
Cancel unused allowances	DiMeo Brothers	(\$11,241)	This change is in the District's best interest.

The following contract changes have been approved by the Chief Financial Officer, because less than \$10,000 and in the District's best interest:

- 1) cancel the unused allowance from Alright Concrete; and
- 2) add five additional exterior security cameras to the electrical contract.

Allowances of \$10,251 have been applied so far. These were applied to patch asphalt and reinstall sign after excavation; purchase larger-diameter storm water pipe after County reviewers upgraded the specifications; rough in under-slab plumbing where a toilet room could be added in the future; replace a damaged interior column; and locate a gas line underneath existing concrete.

Mr. Novack reported that D-R Rosemont, the construction manager, recommends approval of all of these changes.

Mr. Novack reported that the project remains on budget. Taken together, change orders and applied allowances are \$71,692, against a budget of \$219,000.

A motion was made by Mr. Laudadio and seconded by Mrs. Krajecki that the Board of Education approve the contract changes for the reasons stated above.

Roll Call Vote:

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

Nay: None

Absent: Cannon Bailey,

Motion Carried.

New Business- none

Closed Session: none

Adjournment

At 7:46 p.m. a motion was made by Mr. Laudadio and seconded by Ms. Parthimos 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 7:46 p.m.

President

Secretary