



Bensenville Elementary School District
Board of Education Regular Meeting
Minutes - February 17, 2021

President, Bob Laudadio 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
Christian Constante	Secretary	X	
Katie Krajecki	Vice-President	X	
Bob Laudadio	President	X	
Chris McCullough	Member	X (via zoom)	
Alex Stitgen	Treasurer	X	
James Stoltman	Member	X (via zoom)	
Susan Vitellaro	Member		X
Administration			
Dr. James Stelter	Superintendent	X	
Dr. Kay Dugan	Assistant Superintendent for Learning	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, Ben Zulauf, Bill Winters,

Community Member: Brittany Bending,

A motion was made by Mr. Stitgen and seconded by Mr. Stoltman that the Board of Education approve the agenda as presented tabling Conference/Action Item 7I – Strategic Plan FY2021-24. Upon voice vote, all board members present voted aye. Motion carried.

Hearing of Delegations: The following made comments to the Board:

- Mrs. Brittany Bending W.A. Johnson Parent & Pre-K Parent
- Mr. William Winters, BEA Co-President

Presentations

- A.** Head Start Update -Tioga Elementary School – Darby Pool and Nicole Nincic from Metropolitan Family Services presented an update of the program. Mrs. Pool reviewed their safety factors and Mrs. Nincic gave an overview of their program. They have 56 students enrolled with 8-10 on a wait list. Mrs. Nincic thanked the District custodial and food service staff for all they do for the Headstart program and thanked Dr. Stelter for arranging for their staff to get the COVID vaccine.
- B.** Continuous Improvement Plan (CIP) – Special Education – Ms. Juliann Greene and Mrs. Val DiFresco presented the Special Education CIP. Ms. Green reported that there are 344 students on IEPs. 268 K-3 and 66 Pre-K.
- C.** Professional Development Update – Dr. Dugan reviewed the FY 20/21 Professional Development Activities.
- D.** Student Growth: Student Reflection and Engagement – Mrs. Julie Zabel and two of her students Angelina Varghese and Grace Reed presented Information on Student Growth in Remote Learning. Their presentation covered how students adapt to changes. The students gave testimonials. Angelina reported on her TOMS Project and Grace reported on going from non-reader to novelist.
- E.** Writing Proficiency and Student Voice – Dr. Ben Zulauf and Mrs. Erin Wolod reported on Critical Thinking in Writing. Their presentation included what instruction looks.

Administrative Reports

- A. Enrollment Report** – Dr. Stelter reported there are 2150 students enrolled plus 116 in the Birth-3, Itinerant and Headstart programs
- B. FOIA Report** – Mr. Novack reported on the 5 FOIA's that have been received.
1. SmartProcure –purchasing records from 10-15-2020 thru current date
 2. Joe Sutton – contracts for website, content mgmt., alerts, notifications, mobile apps and learning mgmt.
 3. Illinois Retired Teachers Assoc. – names and emails of retired certified staff
 4. ABC7 – Attendance in COVID.
 5. PublicContractos.com – Employee Info.
- C. Article Review:** What are Schools Safe? – Dr. Stelter presented the article “CDC finds scant spread of coronavirus in schools with precautions in place” to the Board for review.
- D. Hybrid Opening Update** – Dr. Stelter presented the Hybrid opening information:
- Operational Strategy for K-12 Schools through Phased Mitigation
 - BSD2 School Hybrid Opening Highlights
 - ISBE ~ How Illinois Districts Are Providing Instruction: Virtual, In-Person, and Blended Learning Dashboard
 - Fauci Says Children As Young As Six Could Start Getting Vaccinated By September, If Trials Are Successful
 - CDC To Release Guidance On School Re-openings On Friday
- E. Benchmark Report – Similar Schools** – Dr. Stelter reported on Comparative School Analysis (Hispanic 60-80%/Low Income 50-70%/EL 40-60%). He reported that WAJ School ranking in Cohort (IAR) ELA M/E is 7th and Math M/E is 18th, Tioga School Ranking in Cohort (IAR) ELA M/E is 8th and Math M/E is 14th Blackhawk Middle School Ranking in Cohort (IAR) ELA M/E is 2nd and Math M/E is 1st.
- F. State/Federal Student Testing Requirements Update** – Dr. Dugan reported that through our various advocacy groups we have continued to ask for state/federal assessments to be waived this year. At this time there is no waiver application issued from the DOE for which states can apply. The Illinois State Board of Education (ISBE) is advocating for the U.S. Department of Education (ED) to make waivers available for spring 2021 assessments as soon as possible. Illinois will apply for a waiver as soon as one is made available. In the meantime, ISBE must proceed with the necessary preparations for administering assessments, in case ED does not make a waiver available. Any state that would unilaterally decide to cancel assessments without an approved waiver in place would risk losing billions of dollars in federal aid for schools.

Dr. Dugan also reported that administrators met to begin to create schedules for ACCESS, IAR, and Illinois Science Assessment, all slated from March through May.

- G. Financial Forecast & Mid-Year Financial Review** - Mr. Novack reported on:
- The current financial status
 - Base Case Assumptions – Operations, Funding Sources and Debt Service
 - Base Case Outcomes
 - Addressing the Out-year Deficits
 - Effects if Base Case Changes
 - Revenue: Local
 - Revenue: Federal
 - Revenue: State
 - Expense Patterns
- H. Teacher Retention Analysis** – Dr. Stelter presented a teacher retention analysis.
- I. Greatness Factors** – Dr. Stelter presented the following Greatness Factors:
- BSD2 Covid Safety Procedures
 - BSD2 Covid Vaccinations

- BSD2 Frontline Health Portal
- BSD2 Full Service Nutrition Workshop
- BSD2 Full Service Spanish Parent Support Group
- BMS In-Person Math Tutoring
- Tioga World Read Aloud Day Celebration
- Tioga Attendance Challenge
- Tioga Porch Visits:
- Johnson Spirit Week

Consent Items

A. Approval of Minutes

1. Regular Board of Education Meeting – January 20, 2021
2. Regular Board of Education Meeting – January 20, 2021 - closed session

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

B. Approval of Bills & Financial Reports

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

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

C. Personnel

I. Ratification of Employment – Classified Staff

Recommendation: That the Board of Education ratifies the employment of the following classified staff for the 2020-2021 school year:

1. Raquel Galvan, Clerical Aide, Tioga School, effective January 25, 2021.
2. Siyka Ivanova Pashova, Bilingual paraprofessional, Johnson School, effective February 1, 2021.

II. Ratification of Employment – 120 Day Contract

Recommendation: That the Board of Education approves the 120-day contract of employment of Vince Gaudio, Part-Time ESL Support Teacher, Johnson School.

III. Resignation of Classified Staff

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

1. Delia Adame, Crossing Guard, Tioga, effective immediately.
2. Fatima Contreras, Special Education Aide, Tioga School, effective February 12, 2021.

IV. Resignation of Certified Staff

Recommendation: That the Board of Education accepts the resignation Cari Raymond, Special Education Teacher, Johnson School, effective the end of the 2020-2021 school year.

V. Approval of Long-Term Substitute

Recommendation: That the Board of Education ratifies the employment of Maureen Reedy, long-term substitute for a teacher in Johnson School, effective mid- February for twelve weeks.

VI. Parental Leave

Recommendation: That the Board of Education approves the Parental leave for Alyssa Simonelli, First Grade Teacher at Johnson School, effective from March 1, 2021 through March 26, 2021.

VII. Approval of Professional Development Plan for the District's Principal at Johnson School

Recommendation: That the Board of Education approves the professional development opportunity for Mr. Carlos Patiño, the Principal at Johnson School, through National Louis University.

D. Review Closed Session Minutes & Destruction of Tapes

Recommendation: That the Board of Education deem all closed session minutes confidential with further review in six months and that the Board of Education direct the superintendent to destroy closed meeting recordings that are at least 18 months old for which approved minutes of the closed meeting already exist.

E. Abate Tax Levy for Alternate Revenue Bonds

Recommendation: That the Board of Education adopt the attached resolution abating all 2020 taxes (collected 2021) previously levied for these bonds: Series 2016 and Series 2020.

F. Gift Acceptance

Recommendation: That the Board of Education accept the \$350 donation from Blackbaud Giving Fund for Blackhawk Middle School.

G. O'Hare Noise Compatibility Commission Intergovernmental Agreement renewal

Recommendation: That the Board of Education adopt the attached resolution authorizing execution of the Intergovernmental Agreement.

H. District's Participation in New Savings Option from Teachers Retirement System

Recommendation: That the Board of Education adopt the resolution as attached.

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

Roll Call Vote:

Aye: Stitgen, Stoltman, Constante, Krajecki, Laudadio, McCullough,

Nay: None

Absent: Vitellaro

Motion Carried.

Conference/Action Item:

A. 2nd Reading and Adoption of Policy Revisions: 7:345 (Physical Restraints & Time-Outs, Medicine Administration) – Mr. Novack reported that a first reading was held in January for this policy

The New Policy 7-345 is proposed here to implement a new Illinois law, the Student Online Personal Protection Act ("SOPPA"). SOPPA's implementation is mandatory.

A motion was made by Mrs. Krajecki and seconded by Mr. Constante that the Board of Education adopt the Policy 7:345 as presented.

Roll Call Vote:

Aye: Krajecki, Constante, Laudadio, McCullough, Stitgen, Stoltman,

Nay: None

Absent: Vitellaro

Motion Carried.

- B. 1st Reading Policy Revision – 5:30 COVID Vaccinations for Staff** – Mr. Novack reported that controlling COVID-19 is critical to the District’s operations. Vaccines are now available for the COVID-19 disease. No available vaccine offers `

Employers are permitted to require vaccinations. As regards the teachers, a proposed requirement must be bargained with the Bensenville Education Association.

If vaccines were required, exceptions would be granted for medical and religious reasons. Clarity for religious exemptions was reviewed.

If a vaccine were required, Policy 5:30 could be amended in part to read as presented here.

Discussion was held regarding the Board of Education considering the advantages and disadvantages of requiring vaccines.

- C. 1st Reading Board Member Handbook** – Dr. Stelter presented the Board Member Handbook for review.
- D. 1st Reading Policy Revision - 2:220 - Broadcast of Future Board Meetings** – Dr. Stelter presented policy 2:220 which concerns meeting procedures. Any person may “broadcast an open Board meeting,” which is expressly permitted by the Open Meetings Act. But the policy does not address broadcasts organized by the Board.

Since the COVID pandemic began, the Board has broadcast its meetings. These broadcasts were a solution when public attendance was limited or even prohibited. It has been suggested that the Board should continue to broadcast its meetings even if public attendance is not limited. An amendment is shown here to Policy 2:220 that would accomplish this.

Public broadcast practices are efficient now, using a Vimeo broadcasting feature that permits one-way broadcasts. Some districts were broadcasting before the pandemic began, but most were not. Public comment over broadcasting was difficult to organize and is not recommended.

The administration recommends that the Board of Education consider a First Reading of Policy 2:220 to broadcast meetings.

- E. Bid Award – Air Filtration Equipment** – Mr. Novack reported that the District requested bids to install ionizing equipment in HVAC equipment for certain sections of the District’s buildings. Bids were solicited by newspaper publication on January 13, 2021.

Eight contractors submitted bids on January 27, 2021. Each bid was for two different brands of equipment, one from GPS and one from Plasma. These are the bid results:

Bidder, ranked by price in Column B.	A	B	C	D
Bids A & B include \$25,000 allowance and assume normal working hours.	GPS brand	Plasma brand	Overtime option 1	Overtime option 2
Monaco Mechanical, Inc. – bid withdrawn	-\$60,300	\$58,100	-\$7,900	-\$7,900
Quality Mechanical, Inc.	\$84,785	\$70,185	\$4,900	\$4,100
American Combustion Service, Inc.	\$79,613	\$81,581	\$8,280	\$8,832
Oak Brook Mechanical Services, Inc.	\$ 88,000	\$ 87,600	\$2,200	\$2,200
MG Mechanical Services, Inc.	\$89,800	\$90,200	\$1,400	\$1,400
C. Acitelli Heating & Piping Contractors	\$ 84,874	\$90,707	\$6,930	\$6,930
Amber Mechanical Contractors, Inc.	\$94,100	\$99,600	\$6,000	\$6,000
Helm Mechanical	\$109,000	\$102,000	\$4,600	\$3,000

Mr. Novack reported that the District’s engineers, CS2 Design Group, recommended that the two equipment brands were sufficiently similar in quality that the low bid of either could be accepted. The District’s architects, STR Partners,

have recommended the acceptance of the bid from Quality Mechanical for Plasma-Air equipment. Quality Mechanical meets the bid requirements and had good references.

The bid price includes a \$25,000 allowance for unforeseen conditions. Administration will manage the work to minimize the spending of this allowance.

Mr. Novack reported that the District will schedule the work to prevent disruption of the school day. The overtime option allows for work to be performed from noon to 8pm.

A motion was made by Dr. McCullough and seconded by Mr. Stoltman that the Board of Education accept the bid of Quality Mechanical, Inc., for \$70,185 with the option for Administration to arrange for non-traditional work hours for an additional \$4,100.

Roll Call Vote:

Aye: McCullough, Stoltman, Constante, Krajecki, Laudadio, Stitgen,

Nay: None

Absent: Vitellaro

Motion Carried.

F. Approval of 2021-2022 Calendar – Dr. Stelter reported that the Illinois School Code requires that the Board of Education approve the annual school calendar by May of each year.

Administration shares draft agendas with teachers and parents to solicit comments. The calendar for Fenton High School is compared to the District calendar to make them similar whenever possible.

Here are key dates from the draft calendar for 2021-2022:

First day of school	Wednesday, August 18 th
Winter break	Monday, 12/20/2021 through Friday, 12/31/2021 (classes resume 1/3/2022)
Parent-Teacher conference days	Oct. 22 and Feb. 18, (changed from Feb. 25)
Last day of school without emergency days	Friday, May 27, 2022
Teacher Institute at year-end	Tuesday, May 31, 2022

A motion was made by Mr. Stitgen and seconded by Mrs. Krajecki that the Board of Education approve the proposed 2021-2022 School Calendar as per attached.

Roll Call Vote:

Aye: Krajecki, Stitgen, Constante, Laudadio, McCullough, Stoltman,

Nay: None

Absent: Vitellaro

Motion Carried.

G. Proclamation ~ Bensenville/Wood Dale Vaccination Team – Dr. Stelter reported that Fenton Community High School District 100, Bensenville School District 2, Wood Dale School District 7, the Bensenville Park District, the Bensenville Public Library and the Village of Bensenville have a vibrant partnership that serve students and families with excellent services and supports that contribute significantly to a high quality of life in the communities.

Dr. Stelter reported that Fenton Community High School held numerous COVID-19 vaccination clinics led by Albertsons-Jewel/Osco, Dr. Ronak Patel, in partnership with the Bensenville School District 2, Wood Dale School District 7, Bensenville Park District, Bensenville Public Library and the Village of Bensenville.

The COVID-19 vaccination clinic could not have been possible without the selfless and generous support of these local municipalities and their leaders.

Albertsons-Jewel/Osco, Dr. Ronak Patel, was able to distribute thousands of COVID19 vaccines to school and community members in need during the 2021 events.

Dr. Stelter reported that Fenton Community High School District 100, Bensenville School District 2, Wood Dale School District 7, Bensenville Park District, Bensenville Public Library and the Village of Bensenville do join in appreciation of the COVID19 vaccination events led by Albertsons-Jewel/Osco, Dr. Ronak Patel. This important endeavor, will positively affect the lives and well-being of our communities more than we will ever know.

A motion was made by Mr. Stoltman and seconded by Mr. Stitgen that the Board of Education make a Proclamation in appreciation of the COVID 19 vaccination events led by Albertsons-Jewel/Osco, Dr. Ronak Patel.

Roll Call Vote:

Aye: Stoltman, Stitgen, Constante, Krajecki, Laudadio, McCullough,

Nay: None

Absent: Vitellaro

Motion Carried.

H. USDA Authorization for Food Service Renewal – Mr. Novack reported that Sodexo provides the District’s food service under a one-year contract that expires July 31, 2020. It has been renewed four times.

The USDA has authorized the District to renew this contract for a fifth time as an emergency COVID measure.

This memorandum does not propose the renewal terms, but proposes only that the District enter into renewal negotiations as permitted by the USDA’s emergency measure.

Sodexo’s charge to the District is at the mid-point of prices charged to nearby Districts. The normal menu (not in effect this year) is more complex than in most other districts, requiring 3 hot choices and 2 cold choices every day. Sodexo’s team is widely respected in the District schools for its excellence and responsiveness.

The District is selling about 50% fewer units per day this year. Fewer units means the vendor recovers less of its fixed costs, affecting the account’s profitability.

So if the District sought bids, vendors would have to decide which volume to assume. Would it be this year’s or last year’s or something in-between? This is a risk not previously present in bidding. Risks like these are usually reflected in a higher bid price, in effect shifting some of the risk from the vendor to the District.

Mr. Novack reported that bidding is not recommended this year because COVID has disrupted the bidding market.

A motion was made by Mr. Stoltman and seconded by Mr. Constante that the Board of Education authorize Administration to enter into renewal negotiations under the USDA emergency COVID authorization.

Roll Call Vote:

Aye: Stoltman, Constante, Krajecki, Laudadio, McCullough, Stitgen,

Nay: None

Absent: Vitellaro

Motion Carried.

I. Strategic Plan FY2021-24 – Tabled at this time.

J. Approval of 2021-2022 School Fees – Dr. Stelter reported that the District has always assessed fees for registration, certain supplies and meals.

A change is proposed here for registration fees. Other fees are proposed to remain the same.

Registration Fees

District 2's registration fee is \$40 in K-5 and \$44 at Blackhawk Middle School. These fees have not changed in many years. Most districts do charge registration fees, often \$100 or more.

Administration proposes eliminating the registration fee for 2021-22.

Activity	Proposed Fee	Comment
<i>Registration:</i>		
Kindergarten	None	The District historically collects about \$30,000 in registration fees. Fee waivers are granted to about half of the students. The fee is halved for students registering in the second semester.
Grades 1-5	None	
Grades 6-8	None	

Supplies and Transportation

No change is recommended in these fees. They have been the same for many years.

Activity	Proposed Fee	Comment
<i>BMS Supplies</i>		
Agenda, Lanyard, and ID	\$10.00	An \$8 discount applies if all BMS fees and items are purchased together. With the discount, the District nets about \$3.75 on \$40 of supplies. Fee waivers are granted to about 60% of BMS students.
Gym Suit	\$18.00	
Calculator	\$20.00	
<i>Bus service</i> outside normal service zone:	\$220.00	Per semester
<i>Meals</i>		Recommendation will be brought later this year.
<i>School Supplies</i>	None	The classroom supply program costs about \$40 per student, totaling about \$85,000.

The Board of Education does not have to charge fees. Reasonable fees may be charged for services and activities that are tangential to the education program, but the fees may not affect a student's right to a free and appropriate public education.

A motion was made by Mrs. Krajecki and seconded by Mr. Stitgen that the Board of Education adopts the 2021-2022 Fee Schedule as presented and that fees are paid at the time of registration.

Roll Call Vote:

Aye: Stoltman, Constante, Krajecki, Laudadio, McCullough, Stitgen,

Nay: None

Absent: Vitellaro

Motion Carried.

New Business

- Dr. Stelter updated the Board on the Governor's Budget address. Dr. Stelter reported that Evidence Based Funding will see a slight increase.
- Dr. McCullough would like professional development for board members pertaining to school finance.

Closed Session

At 9:40 p.m. a motion was made by Mr. Stoltman and seconded by Mr. Stitgen that the Board of Education go into closed session to discuss Bargaining.

Roll Call Vote:

Aye: Stoltman, Stitgen, Constante, Krajecki, Laudadio, McCullough,

Nay: None

Absent: Vitellaro
Motion Carried.

At 9:41 p.m. a motion was made by Mr. Stoltman and seconded by Mr. Constante that the Board of Education go into closed session to discuss Personnel.

Roll Call Vote:
Aye: Stoltman, Constante, Krajecki, Laudadio, McCullough, Stitgen
Nay: None
Absent: Vitellaro
Motion Carried.

At 10:07 p.m. motion was made by Mr. Constante and seconded by Mrs. Stitgen to come out of closed session. Upon voice vote, all board members present voted aye. Motion carried.

Adjournment

At 10:07 p.m. a motion was made by Mr. Constante and seconded by Mr. Stitgen that the Board of Education adjourn the meeting. Upon voice vote, all board members present voted aye. Motion carried.

No further business appearing Mr. Laudadio adjourned the meeting at 10:07 p.m.

President

Secretary