



Bensenville Elementary School District
Board of Education Regular Workshop Meeting
Minutes - August 4, 2021

President, Dr. Chris McCullough called the regular workshop meeting of Bensenville Elementary School District 2 Board of Education, DuPage County to order at 6:40 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
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. Raymond Lechner	Interim 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, Anne Paonessa, Interim Director of Curriculum & Learning.

Hearing of Delegations: none

Administrative Reports

- A. **Update Open Positions** – Dr. Lechner reported that there are 4 teacher positions, 4 parapro positions and 1 bus driver position open at this time.
- B. **Construction Update** – Mr. Novack reported that Tioga construction is on schedule. Supplies have been delivered on time. The project is still on schedule to finish at the end of 2021. An internet line was damaged at Tioga due to incorrect markings. The internet line will be fixed before school starts.
- C. **Superintendent Search Update** – Mr. Waldorf reported that District Administrators are working with BEA and HYA to plan a staff presentation on the Superintendent Search. Currently, all parties are exploring the possibility of an optional, after-hours BEA-sponsored presentation by HYA on either Monday, August 16, or Tuesday, August 17. The event would start right at 4 p.m. in the BMS auditorium, would last 20-30 minutes, and it would strictly be HYA presenting to BEA members and other classified staff. (No BOE members or District/school admins.)

The goals of this format are:

- To allow HYA to present the results of the staff survey on the superintendent search directly to our staff, and begin its engagement efforts with our teachers at that time.
- To make certain superintendent search info reaches BEA members, and to help BEA leadership ensure members’ voices are heard by HYA.
- For staff to feel comfortable attending and genuinely participating because it is sponsored by BEA and no BOE members or District/school administrators are present.
- To review this info with staff

HYA is available either day, and would use the opportunity to ...

- Share results from the June staff survey.
- Provide an overview of the HYA search process
- Highlight opportunities staff will have to share their thoughts in focus groups, forums, and surveys.
- Introduce themselves and share contact info.
- Answer questions.

D. Strategic Planning Update – Dr. Lechner reported:

The first step will be to set up a planning meeting

- Dr. Suedbeck and Dr. Gibson will lead the Strategic Plan kick off meeting
- The purpose will be to finalize decisions about the process.

The agenda for the kick off meeting typically covers the items below.

- Review Strategic Planning purpose & process
- Create a Strategic Planning calendar
- Schedule time for Board member and Superintendent interviews
- Identify Stakeholder Focus Groups
- Technical decisions for online survey
- Data collection decisions
- Review Communication Kit & media strategy
- Communication with administrators

E. Re-Opening Plan Update - Dr. Lechner reported: The Reopening Committee is still developing the District's 2021-2022 reopening plan, aiming to significantly shorten and simplify the language of the 2021-2022 plan while incorporating the most up-to-date guidance from the CDC, ISBE, and the IDPH.

The plan's focus is on facilitating a safe return to as close of a normal school year as possible, with students attending classes in person five full days a week.

Because we remain in the midst of the COVID pandemic, though, the plan will still review the District's COVID mitigation measures.

While the Committee is still working answer a number of unresolved questions to sort out a variety of implementation details, it has determined the following:

- Masking will be required of all students and staff while indoors, regardless of vaccination status.
- Classrooms, intervention spaces, offices, and buses will continue to be configured to provide for appropriate social distancing (no less than 3 feet) to the greatest extent possible.
- Teachers will monitor materials within the classroom, place appropriate limits on and parameters for the sharing of certain materials, and see that they are properly cleaned between uses.
- Food service and student transportation will be provided safely, and extra-curricular, art and athletic activities will resume with appropriate COVID mitigation measures in place.
- Students with IEPs and 504s will be provided their educational services in compliance with all state and federal safety guidelines, and students who are unable to attend school in person due to medical conditions that put them at high risk of severe illness if they contract COVID will receive remote instruction.
- Temperature screening and online symptom self-certification will no longer be conducted. Instead, parents will be responsible for screening their child before school, and by sending them

to school, they will certify that the child is not experiencing any COVID symptoms. Everyone will be encouraged to stay home if they are sick or symptomatic.

- Healthy hygiene practices will again be emphasized, and the District’s intensive cleaning, disinfecting and ventilation practices will continue.
- Protocols will be explained for handling symptomatic individuals and confirmed cases, conducting contact tracing and identifying close contacts, and quarantining and returning to school.
- Vaccination resources will be included, as will procedures for students and staff to voluntarily and confidentially submit vaccination records. Vaccination records will be used in contact tracing and determining when students and staff must quarantine.
- Shield testing, the University of Illinois’ free-access saliva COVID testing will be conducted among students up to two times a week.

- F. **BSD2 Website Redesign** – Mr. Tim Waldorf reported after moving from CivicPlus to Blackboard and completely overhauling the website three years ago, we’re set to refresh the look of the website this summer by implementing Blackboard’s new “MyWay Ultra Design-Ready” Cascade template.
- G. **Legal Counsel for Collective Bargaining** – Dr. Lechner reported that the administration is reviewing law firms that conduct collective bargaining negotiations and will recommend a final list to the Board for review in October.
- H. **Intergovernmental Agreement - EAC Roof Replacement** – Mr. Novack reported the District’s Administration Center is part of the same building as the Bensenville Community Public Library. The building’s cedar shake roof is due for a replacement. At the June meeting, Administration presented initial plans to replace the roof at the Administration Center and to lend to the Library the funds needed for its share of the roof.

The two governments share building costs under an Intergovernmental Agreement from 1997. Cost sharing methods are decided by the kind of project. Roof surface by square foot is shown below. For a project measured this way, District 2’s share would be about 30.5%.

Location	Shake Roofing (Square Feet)	Percentage
District 2’s dedicated space	6,129	18%
BCPL’s dedicated space	19,708	56%
Shared space	8,958	26%
Total	34,795	

The District and the Library expect to seek bids later this month, with the assistance of Engineering Solutions Team, an engineering and project firm with which both bodies have previously worked. The projected cost is around \$500,000 plus management costs.

Administration is working with counsel to prepare an Intergovernmental Agreement with the Library. The Agreement will establish the means of bidding, of construction management, and of the advance of funds from the District.

The loan and the joint project are recommended because a contract to re-roof the full building at one time should achieve a lower-per-square foot cost for the District than would a project only involving the District-owned portion.

Administration is working with counsel to ensure the agreement’s completeness.

Recommendation: No action is recommended at this time. At the August 18 meeting, Administration hopes to present an agreement for final approval.

- I. **Tentative Budget Preview** – Mr. Novack reported that the Tentative Budget will be available August 16 and the Budget will be presented for approval on September 15th.

Consent Agenda

A. Personnel

I. Resignation of Certified Staff

Recommendation: That the Board of Education accepts the resignation of Maria Pulido, 4th and 5th Grade Music teacher for Johnson and Tioga Schools, effective immediately.

II. Retirement of Classified Staff

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

1. Mary Alvarado, Secretary to the Principal, Tioga School, effective August 1, 2021.
2. Felix Rios Rivera, Bus Driver for the District, effective July 26, 2021.

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

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

1. Ms. Martha Almazan-Pikor, 3rd Grade Bilingual Teacher, Johnson School, effective August 12, 2021.
2. Abigail Lawson, Music Teacher for Johnson/Tioga Schools effective August 12, 2021.
3. Maria Ramos, Bilingual school Psychologist, Tioga School effective August 12, 2021.
4. Aida Rodriguez, Teacher on Special Assignment K-1 Bilingual Teacher, Johnson School, effective August 12, 2021.

IV. Ratification of Employment – Classified Staff

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

1. Jose Avila, Clerical Aide, Tioga School, effective August 23, 2021.
2. Odalys Diaz, Bilingual Paraprofessional 7-8 Newcomer Students, Blackhawk Middle School, effective August 6, 2021.
3. Jennifer Schoeph, Reading paraprofessional, Johnson School, effective August 6, 2021.

V. 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, effective August 16, 2021.

VI. Ratification of Employment – Assistant Principal 12-month Contract

Recommendation: That the Board of Education approves the 12-month contract of employment of Nicole Mrowice, Blackhawk Middle School, commencing July 1, 2021 and ending June 30, 2022.

B. Approval of BPD Bus Transportation for Before & Afterschool Program

The Bensenville Park District serves District 2 students with programs before and after school. District 2 has provided transportation for these children between their schools and the Deer Grove Center for the past several years. The District does not transport students between their homes and Deer Grove.

The Park District has asked District 2 to continue this transportation in 2021-2022.

Mrs. Cooper, Transportation Director, has reviewed the transportation request and is confident that the District has capacity to transport up to sixty (60) children. No extra routes are added for this program. Instead, existing routes add an extra stop at Deer Grove Leisure Center.

Recommendation: That the Board of Education authorize transportation in 2021-2022, to and from the Bensenville Park District's Deer Grove Center, for before- and after-school programs for up to sixty (60) District 2 students.

A motion was made by Mrs. Krajecki and seconded by Mr. Laudadio tha the Board of Education approve the Consent Agenda Items as presented.

Roll Call Vote:

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

Nay: None

Absent: Cannon-Bailey

Motion Carried.

Conference/Action Item

A. Report from Parent-Teacher Advisory Committee – Ms. Missy Baglarz, Director of MTSS reported that Policy 2:150 and School Code direct the Parent-Teacher Committee to review the pupil discipline policy. This year, the committee consisted of Mrs. Julia Bray and Mrs. Victoria Myhre (BSD2 Parents), Ms. Mary Balducci, Ms. Vicky Mazzone, Ms. Brittany Reinhart (BSD2 Teachers), and Ms. Juliann Greene, Mr. Carlos Patiño, Mr. Jeff Kersten, Dr. Perry Finch, and Ms. Missy Baglarz (BSD2 Administrators).

The committee reviewed the “Behavior Policy” section in the Student Handbook (pp. 30+) which is based on Policy 7:190.

The committee met twice via Zoom and submitted individual comments and suggestions which were compiled, reviewed, and agreed upon for inclusion in this report by the entire committee.

Ms. Baglarz reported that the **committee recommended the following changes to the Behavior Policy section in the Student Handbook.**

1. P. 30 (2 instances). Replace “positive student behavior” with “expected student behavior.”
2. P. 30. Replace “employ instructional strategies....” with “Teach, model, and practice the behavioral expectations throughout the year.”
3. P. 30. Replace the word “alert” in “The guidelines presented in this document are designed to alert students and parents....” with the word “educate.”
4. P. 33. **Temporary Exclusion from Class.**
Replace “The teacher is expected to deal with routine behavior problems in a positive corrective manner within the classroom setting, and when necessary confer with the parents or guardians. Should the behavior problem persist, the teacher has the authority to remove the student from the classroom. After notifying the office staff, the teacher may send the student to a supervised area designated by the principal. After the teacher and principal have conferred, the teacher and/or principal will then notify the parents or guardians about remedial measures” with....

... *“The classroom is the best location to manage nearly all behavior issues. This approach permits all students to continue learning. To achieve this goal, teachers can call on many other staff members and administrators for guidance and support. However, sometimes a student will be relocated to other building areas for a behavior issue. The teacher, the student and other staff will work together to return the student to the classroom as soon as possible.”*

5. P. 34, #7. Eliminate the second sentence, *“Examples of disobeying staff directives include refusing a District staff member’s request to stop, present school identification, or submit to a search.”*
6. P. 38, 4th bullet. Replace, *“Any display of public affection”* with *“Any disruptive display of public affection.”*
7. P. 42, Definitions. Replace, *“Multi-Tiered System of Support is a way to meet the needs of all students.”* with *“Multi-Tiered System of Support is a framework for meeting the academic, social, emotional, and behavioral needs of all students.”*

Ms. Baglarz reported that the **committee suggested a review of these school-level practices:**

- Review and update the Step System at Blackhawk Middle School

Ms. Baglarz reported that the **committee suggested the following for consideration at the District level:**

- The committee respectfully requests that the Board of Education allow the Parent-Teacher Advisory Committee to engage in the following:
 - Continue to meet as an expanded committee to examine our *implementation* of the behavior policy and outline our philosophy as a District around trauma-informed practices and restorative practices under the PBIS Framework to be included in the handbook and/or the Board-approved Behavior Policy (7:190).
 - Present our findings and recommendations at a February, 2022 Board of Education Meeting.

A motion was made Mr. Stoltman and seconded by Ms. Parthimos to approve the discipline section of the Student Handbook as revised. Upon voice vote, all board members present voted aye. Motion carried.

B. Intergovernmental Agreement School Resource Officer – Mr. Novack reported that a Village police officer has served as a school resource officer in District 2 for the past 12 years. The officer is onsite full-time during the school year. The District and the Village renew their intergovernmental agreement annually.

Mr. Novack reported that the Administration recommends renewing the agreement for the 2021-22 school year. The Police Department has accepted our request to assign Officer Kevin Banks to this position for another year. Officer Banks has been assigned this position for eleven years.

Officer Banks works with the students, families, administration and staff to support a safe learning environment. For at-risk students, he establishes rapport and trust and provides interventions to them and to their families to help them be successful. His actions build trust between community members and the police department by demonstrating how a police department is a community resource for all.

The District pays 70% of the officer’s annual salary and benefits, equipment and uniform costs. For the 2021-22 school year, the District’s costs will be as follows:

Salary and Benefits	II.\$99,197
Equipment	III.5,000
Uniform	IV.700
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Total Cost	V.\$99,897

These costs will be prorated if the schools switch to all-remote instruction. Except for that proration, the proposed Intergovernmental Agreement is the same agreement that has been in place since 2009. A copy of the agreement is attached.

A motion was made by Mr. Laudadio and seconded by Mrs. Krajecki that the Board of Education approves the Intergovernmental Agreement between the Village and the District for the 2021-22 school year.

Roll Call Vote:

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

Nay: None

Absent: Cannon-Bailey

Motion Carried.

B. Change Orders – Mr. Novack reported that there were not at this time.

New Business –

Signage at WAJ & Tioga – Discussion was held regarding the type of signs. There was Board consensus to move forward to purchase signs up to a cost of \$25,000 per sign.

Closed Session - None

Adjournment

At 7:17 p.m. a motion was made by Mrs. Krajecki 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 7:17 p.m.

President

Secretary