



Bensenville Elementary School District

Board of Education Regular Meeting

Minutes – April 10, 2024

President Robert Laudadio called the regular meeting of Bensenville Elementary School District 2 Board of Education, DuPage County to order at 6:30 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	Secretary	X	
Victoria Gonzalez	Member	X	
Robert Laudadio	President	X	
Marisol Leyva	Vice-President	X (arrived 6:35 p.m.)	
Anita Miller	Member	X	
Lori Parthimos	Treasurer	X (arrived 6:32 p.m.)	
James Stoltman	Member		X
Administration			
Dr. Katie McCluskey	Superintendent	X	
Mr. Paul Novack	C.F.O.	X	
Dr. Anne Paonessa	Assistant Superintendent for Teaching & Learning	X	
Mr. Dustin Berman	Assistant Superintendent for Student Services	X	
Cindy Snyder	Administrative Asst. to the Superintendent & Clerk of the Board	X	

Staff Present: Tim Waldorf – Community Relations Coordinator, Gaby Escobar – Bilingual Community Relations Coordinator, Leann Roper, Caitlin Mendoza, Yuri Zepeda, Tara Alvarez, Shannon Steen, Dr. Rubi Ortiz – Staff members.

Community Members: Maria DeJesus, Suzie Gonzalez, Joel Torres, Brittany Pufundt, Mr. & Mrs. Rafael Bautista

Pledge of Allegiance

Mr. Laudadio led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Public comments:

There were 6 community members who spoke in regards to the two-way Dual Language Program in District 2.

- 1.) Noah Gonzalez, 2.) Susie Gonzalez, 3.) Maria DeJesus, 4.) Joel Torres, 5.) Max & Teddy Pufundt, 6.) Mr. & Mrs. Rafael Bautista

Celebrations

- A. **Celebration** – On behalf of the Board, Dr. Katie McCluskey, Superintendent of Schools, congratulated Dr. Rubi Ortiz, Curriculum Coordinator, on successfully defending her dissertation and earning her Ed.D. in Educational Leadership from National Louis University.

Presentations

- A. **Right At School** – Representatives from Right At School reviewed with the Board their success in their first year providing free after-school childcare funded through COVID relief grants. The representatives shared the structure of the program, the high satisfactory parent survey data, and their plans to transition to a parent-paid program next year when that grant funding expires.
- B. **Teaching & Learning Update** – Dr. Anne Paonessa, Assistant Superintendent for Teaching & Learning, presented the Board with updates on the District's Elementary Math Pilot and the work of the Bensenville 2 Literacy Committee. Joining her for the presentation were Tara Alvarez, a literacy interventionist for English/Language Arts at Blackhawk; Caitlin Mendoza, a fourth-grade teacher at Johnson, and Yuridia Zepeda, a bilingual reading specialist at Tioga.

Board Committee Reports

A. Announcements - none

Administrative Reports

- A. Announcements** – none
- B. FOIA Report** – Mr. Novack reported that there was 1 FOIA from Sheet Metal Workers Local 265 requesting records for HVAC Maintenance Contracts. Projects involving HVAC; Exhaust Systems; Architectural Metals; Gutters and Downspouts; Locker installation; Toilet partition installation; and Kitchen renovations. Completed 3/22/2024.
- C. BMS Construction Update** – Mr. Novack reported that this week, surveyors began staking out the additions so that excavating crews can begin their work next week.
- D. Third Quarter Financial Report** - Mr. Novack reported that through the third quarter of the 2023-2024 fiscal year, revenues and expenses are generally coming in as forecasted, with positive variances providing a slightly better surplus than forecast in the original budget.
- E. Quarterly Investment Report** – Mr. Novack presented the Quarterly Investment Report attached.
- F. Health Insurance Rates 2024-25 for Classified Staff** – Mr. Novack reported that classified staff rates for health insurance are determined by the District. Administration proposed the same sharing percentages for next year as for this year. The Board's overall cost will increase next year by the HMO increase of 7.8%. The Board's annual contribution is always tied to the cost of one particular HMO, no matter which plan staff select. Classified staff choosing that one plan, HMO Blue Access, will also have a 7.8% increase. Staff choosing less expensive plans will have increases less than 7.8%. Staff choosing more expensive plans will have increases above 7.8%.

Consent Items

A. Approval of Minutes

- 1. Regular Board of Education Meeting – March 19, 2024
- 2. Regular Board of Education Meeting – March 19, 2024 - closed session
- 3. Regular Board of Education Meeting – March 20, 2024
- 4. Regular Board of Education Meeting – March 20, 2024 - closed session

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

B. Approval of Financial Reports

- 1. Bills March 2024
 - a. Accounts Payable
 - b. Imprest Checks
 - c. Advanced Checks
- 2. Financial Statements as of March 29, 2024

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

C. Personnel

I. Notices of Resignation

The following persons have submitted resignations:

- 1. Karen Fitzer, EL ELA Teacher, effective the end of the 2023-2024 school year.
- 2. Jaime Lenhart, Student Services Coordinator, Blackhawk Middle School.
- 3. Martha Malana, PreK School Counselor, Tioga School.
- 4. Brenda Pena, PreK Blended Teacher, Tioga School.

II. Resolution Regarding Non-Renewal of Teachers who worked a partial year

Recommendation: That the Board of Education adopts the Resolution regarding Non-Renewal of the following teachers:

- 1. Elizabeth Callahan-Maciasz, Teacher on Special Assignment, Tioga School.
- 2. Barbara Mellody-Pizzato, 8th Grade ISP Teacher, Blackhawk Middle School.
- 3. Monica Piekutowski, ESL Math Teacher, Blackhawk Middle School.
- 4. Dustin Sublett, Teacher on Special Assignment, Blackhawk Middle School.

III. Resolution Dismissing Probationary Teachers

Recommendation: That the Board of Education adopts the Resolution regarding Dismissing Probationary Teachers for Elizabeth Casey, Fine Arts Teacher, Tioga School.

IV. Resolution Regarding Non-Renewal and Honorable Dismissal of Teachers

Recommendation: That the Board of Education adopts the Resolution regarding Non-Renewal and Honorable Dismissal for Erin Wolod, part-time consulting teacher.

V. Approval of Summer School Secretary

Recommendation: That the Board of Education ratifies the employment of Consuelo Gonzalez, Traditional Summer School and Enrichment Program Secretary.

VI. Teacher Tenure

The following teachers have achieved (tenure) at the end of this school year subject to having worked at least 120 days this year.

Blackhawk Middle School

Melissa Glynn

W.A. Johnson

Nisma Castaneda
Amanda Doyle
Carola Llanes
Sierra Moya
Katie Perry
Shelby Ross
Tara Schoepp
Courtney Segretto

Tioga School

Tania Chlimon
Alan DelRio
Tracy Ibeling
Abigail Lawson
Kayla Lincoln
Rameela Masghati
Yesenia Nunez
Tiffany Riding
Lisa Snyder
Tereon Teague

VII. Re-employment – Certified Staff

The following teachers, not yet tenured, are renewed for 2024-25.

Blackhawk Middle School

Emma Alberico
Angela Campanile
Vanessa Campos
Rosalia Cucinella
Lauren Cunniff
Giovanna Foss
Sara LaPrall
Edith Navar
Kacey Russell
Jessica Seiglie-Quinones
Jack Sullivan
Mara Sventeckis
Kaelyn Vaschur
Michael Verardi

W.A. Johnson

Emily Bajzek
Mercedes Childress
Julia Cygnar
Zulema Davalos
Ashley Dolce
Katty Esparza
Nisa Fayyaz
Chelsea Gnan
Jessica Hurtado
Caren Krolikiewicz
Marlen Ojeda
Sigal Orgad
Cami Philgreen
Kelly Presa
Mayra Rojas
LeAnn Roper
Nicole Simmons
Lisa Smid
Carolina Trujillo-Cervantes

Tioga School

Cameron Becker
Jennifer Bucaro
Hope Chamberlin
Sarah Diaz
Jose Galvan
Jennifer Gutierrez
Rachel Hallin
Chloe Hlustik
Stacen Hodgetts
Allison Morley
Kelly Niggemann
Alicia Palacios
Nilda Pantaleon
Samantha Patterson
Alejandra Santos
Carolyn Schmidt
Francis Segura
Miranda Spal
Shannon Surell
Kelly Wallner

VIII. Summer School Staffing

Recommendation: That the Board of Education approve the 2024 Summer School teaching Assignments for the following:

Teacher	Assignment	Teacher	Assignment
Katty Esparza	Kinder-Dual Math	Courtney Segretto	Gr 3-Reading
Carola Llanes	Kinder-Dual Reading	Blanca Delgado	Gr 3-Enrichment
Sandy Brown	Kinder-Monolingual	Amanda Hannapel	Gr 4-Math
Bridget Tello	Kinder-Enrichment Dual/Mono	Mercedes Childress	Gr 4-Reading
Carol Fernandez	Gr 1--Dual Math	Cami Philgreen	Gr 4-Enrichment
Alicia Palacios	Gr 1--Dual Reading	Stephanie Fitch	Gr 5-Math & Reading
Alan DelRio (sports)	Gr 1-Enrichment-Dual	Caren Krolikiewicz	Gr 5-Math
Erin Grunwald	Gr 1-Math	Deanna Berardi	Gr 5-Reading
Alyssa Simonelli	Gr 1-Reading	Yesenia Nunez	Gr 5-Enrichment
Laura Wojcieszek	Gr 1-Enrichment-Mono	Katie Klinger	Gr 6-Math
Marlene Ojeda	Gr 2--Dual Math	Rich Delaney	Gr 6-Reading
Carolina Trujillo	Gr 2--Dual Reading	Kayla Lincoln	Gr 6-Enrichment
Carissa Umana	Gr 2-Dual Enrichment	Emma Alberico	Gr 7-Math
Mary Larsen	Gr 2-Math	Roula Vranas	Gr 7-Reading
Heather Glore	Gr 2-Reading	William Zeitzer	Gr 7-Enrichment
Mary Yetter	Gr 2-Enrichment	Lillian Grogan	Special Education Floater
Gloria Bek	Gr 3-Math		

ENRICHMENT PROGRAM

Meredith Barrett	Kindergarten, Grade 1 Enrichment
Tereon Teague	Kindergarten, Grade 1 Enrichment
Sigal Orgad	Kindergarten, Grade 1 Enrichment
Carly Boeing	4/5th Gr Split, 5/6th Split, 6/7th Split Enrichment
Mayra Rojas	4/5th Gr Split, 5/6th Split, 6/7th Split Enrichment
Vanessa Campos	4/5th Gr Split, 5/6th Split, 6/7th Split Enrichment
Kristi Mullen	2/3rd Gr Split, Gr 3, Gr 4 Enrichment
Tara Schoepp	2/3rd Gr Split, Gr 3, Gr 4 Enrichment
Allison Morley	2/3rd Gr Split, Gr 3, Gr 4 Enrichment

IX. Approval of Long-Term Substitute

Recommendation: That the Board of Education ratifies the employment of Shayna Lee, Long-term substitute for a Music teacher at Tioga School, effective April 2nd until the beginning of May, 2024.

X. Compensation for Administrators and Principals

Recommendation: That the Board of Education ratify the proposed pay amounts for administrators and other members of the leadership team and approve one-year contracts.

XI. Summer Special Education Evaluations

Recommendation: The Board of Education approves the estimated 7-10 days this summer for evaluations.

XII. Ratification of Employment for 2024-2025, Certified Staff

Recommendation: That the Board of Education approves the employment of Jacqueline Ponce, Bilingual Social Worker, Blackhawk Middle School, effective August 15, 2024.

D. Approval of Budget Development calendar - Administration recommends the following schedule for preparing the budget:

July 17, 2024	Present preliminary budget overview.
August 15, 2024	Publish Notice of Hearing for September meeting.

August 19, 2024	Tentative budget available for public inspection for 30 days before adoption of final budget.
August 21, 2024	Board reviews tentative budget.
September 18, 2024	Budget Hearing held. Board adopts the final budget.

Recommendation: No action is recommended.

E. Authorize Spending for 2024-25 That Occurs Before Budget Adoption - The District's new fiscal year begins on July 1, 2024. The Board is scheduled to review a tentative budget in August and to adopt a final budget in September. Authority is requested here for typical spending from July to September until the budget is approved. During those months, the Board will be asked to approve payments to vendors in the same manner as usual.

Recommendation: That the Board of Education authorize Administration to acquire products and services for 2024-25 in the usual manner, to be ratified in September by the adoption of the budget.

F. Gift Acceptance - An unrestricted donation of various baby supplies having a monetary value of \$550 from Nadia Arreguin. The District intends to use these items for families in need through the Family Resource Center.

Recommendation: That the Board of Education accept the unrestricted donation from Nadia Arreguin.

A motion was made by Mrs. Miller and seconded by Mrs. Dye that the Board of Education approve the consent agenda items as presented.

Roll Call Vote:

Aye: Miller, Dye, Gonzalez, Laudadio, Leyva, Parthimos,
Nay: None
Absent: Stoltman,
Motion Carried.

Conference/Action Item

A. 2nd Reading & Adoption of Revised Policies - Dr. McCluskey presented the following policies for 2nd Reading & Adoption:

- *2:20 - Powers and Duties of the School Board; Indemnification* is presented for second reading. One change is added since first reading: counsel recommends a revised statement on page 2 concerning Indemnification of staff, Board members, and others. The revised statement is intended, the same as the prior one, to implement indemnification requirements exactly as they appear in School Code. No other changes are recommended from the first reading.
- *2:120 - Board Member Development* is presented for second reading. No changes are recommended from the first reading.
- *2:200 - Types of School Board Meetings* is presented for second reading. No changes are recommended from the first reading.
- *4:60 - Purchases and Contracts* is presented here for second reading. No changes are recommended from the first reading.
- *4:160 - Environmental Quality of Buildings and Grounds* is presented here for second reading. No changes are recommended from the first reading.

A motion was made by Mrs. Gonzalez, and seconded by Mrs. Miller that the Board of Education adopt the following revised policies as presented:

- *2:20 - Powers and Duties of the School Board; Indemnification*
- *2:120 - Board Member Development*
- *2:200 - Types of School Board Meetings*
- *4:60 - Purchases and Contracts*
- *4:160 - Environmental Quality of Buildings and Grounds*

Roll Call Vote:

Aye: Gonzalez, Miller, Dye, Laudadio, Leyva, Parthimos,

Nay: None

Absent: Stoltman,

Motion Carried.

B. Award Contract for Laptop Purchase – Dr. McCluskey reported that teachers and the technology team conducted an extensive pilot and evaluation process. The selected model is a Windows-based laptop from Dell. A touch screen was preferred by teachers and will be purchased. The laptop will be able to broadcast to the new monitors being installed in Blackhawk Middle School classrooms this summer. The new laptop has the same 14" screen as the laptop now in use.

Mr. Novack reported that competing bids were received from Dell, from Dell resellers, and from other manufacturers.

Bidder	Unit Price
Dell Direct, recommended	1,096
HP with same features	1,485
Dell reseller, Repair Depot	1,592
Dell reseller, Hypertec USA	1,733
Lenovo, with same features	1,748

Dell Direct is recommended at a unit price of \$1,096. The total cost for 330 units is \$361,680. Deployment to staff is expected before school dismisses in May, in order to free up summer time for other tasks for the IT team. Expected life is six years. On-site service from Dell is included.

A motion was made by Mrs. Parthimos and seconded by Mrs. Leyva that the Board of Education approve the purchase of 330 laptops from Dell for \$361,680.

Roll Call Vote:

Aye: Parthimos, Leyva, Dye, Gonzalez, Laudadio, Miller,

Nay: None

Absent: Stoltman,

Motion Carried.

B. Establish 2024-25 School Board Meeting dates – Dr. McCluskey reported that the attached list of 2024-2025 School Board meeting dates have been reviewed with Dr. McCluskey and Mr. Laudadio the Board President. Regular Board of Education meetings will be held on the 3rd Wednesday of the month except for April. Two Regular Workshop meetings have been scheduled throughout the year.

A motion was made by Mrs. Dye, and seconded by Mrs. Leyva that the Board of Education approve the attached list of 2024-2025 Board meeting dates as presented.

Roll Call Vote:

Aye: Dye, Leyva, Gonzalez, Laudadio, Miller, Parthimos,

Nay: None

Absent: Stoltman,

Motion Carried.

D. Change Board Meeting date for June 19th Meeting – Dr. McCluskey reported that the June Board meeting is scheduled for June 19th which is a holiday.

A motion was made by Mrs. Leyva and seconded by Mrs. Dye that the Board of Education reschedule the June 19th meeting to Thursday, June 20th.

Roll Call Vote:

Aye: Leyva, Dye, Gonzalez, Laudadio, Miller, Parthimos,

Nay: None

Absent: Stoltman,

Motion Carried.

E. Elect Board of Education Treasurer for 2024-2025

A motion was made by Mrs. Leyva and seconded by Mrs. Dye that the Board of Education elect Mrs. Lori Parthimos as Treasurer to take effect when the current Treasurer's term expires on May 3, 2024.

Roll Call Vote:

Aye: Dye, Gonzalez, Laudadio, Leyva, Miller, Parthimos,

Nay: None

Absent: Stoltman,

Motion Carried.

F. Approval of School-wide Title I Plan for Blackhawk Middle School – Dr. Katie McCluskey reported that Blackhawk Middle School, with a low-income population of 65%, qualifies for Title I status. The purpose of these federal funds is to improve educational opportunities for students at low income schools.

Dr. McCluskey also reported that this plan has been developed with input from teachers, administrators, and parents. These funds, if granted, would be used towards items such as; professional development, instructional resources, materials, and parent engagement.

A motion was made by Mrs. Dye and seconded by Mrs. Gonzalez that the Board of Education approve the BMS Title I plan as presented.

Roll Call Vote:

Aye: Dye, Gonzalez, Laudadio, Leyva, Miller, Parthimos,

Nay: None

Absent: Stoltman,

Motion Carried.

New Business

- Dr. McCluskey reported on [Interpretation Request](#): Board meetings are conducted in English. However, simultaneous interpretation of any Board meeting is available upon request. An interpreter will also translate for you if you choose to address the Board during public comments. Dr. McCluskey reported, to request interpretation for a BSD2 Board of Education meeting, please complete the interpretation request form [linked here](#) 72 hours prior to the start of the meeting for which you will need this service. The form can also be found on the [Board of Education page](#) and the [Agendas, Videos & Minutes page](#) on the District's website.
- Dr. McCluskey reported on Foreign Language Program: Dr. McCluskey reported that the District has qualified for an Art & Foreign Education Grant from the Illinois Arts Council. The grant will fund the District's research next year into the possibility of adding an elementary Spanish program in the future. If such a program can be implemented, the grant will also support some of the program's cost for its first three years.
- Mr. Laudadio appointed Lori Parthimos as the NDSEC Governing Board representative and himself as the alternate.

Closed Session

At 7:36 p.m. motion was made by Mrs. Miller and seconded by Mrs. Leyva that the Board of Education go into closed session for the purpose of:

A. 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: Miller, Leyva, Dye, Gonzalez, Parthimos, Laudadio,

Nay: None

Absent: Stoltman,

Motion Carried.

At 8:02 p.m. motion was made by Mrs. Dye and seconded by Mrs. Gonzalez that the Board of Education adjourn from closed session. Upon voice vote, all board members present voted aye. Motion carried.

New Business

Ms. Parthimos reported that the BMS PTO is looking for volunteers to help chaperone the 8th grade party on May 23, 2024 from 6-8 p.m.

Adjournment

At 8:05 p.m. motion was made by Mrs. Dye and seconded by Mrs. Gonzalez 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 8:05 p.m.

President

Secretary