



## Bensenville Elementary School District 2

Board of Education Regular Meeting

Minutes – June 20, 2024

Vice President Marisol Leyva called the regular meeting of the Bensenville Elementary School District t2 Board of Education, DuPage County to order at 6:30 p.m., at the Educational Administration Center, 210 S. Church Road, Bensenville, IL

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

<b>Board of Education</b>	<b>Title</b>	<b>Present</b>	<b>Absent</b>
Jacqueline Dye	Secretary	X	
Victoria Gonzalez	Member	X	
Robert Laudadio	President		X
Marisol Leyva	Vice-President	X	
Anita Miller	Member	X	
Lori Parthimos	Treasurer	X	
James Stoltman	Member		X
<b>Administration</b>			
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

**Pledge of Allegiance** – Mrs. Leyva led the Pledge of Allegiance.

**Public Hearing - Amend 2023-2024 Budget**

- A. Mrs. Leyva opened the Public Hearing for 2023-2024 Amended Budget at 6:32 p.m.
- B. Presentation for 2023-2024 Amended Budget – Mr. Novak presented the Budget summary.
- C. Audience Participation – questions and clarification – Mrs. Leyva asked if any board members or audience members had any questions, hearing none,
- D. Mrs. Leyva closed the hearing and returned to the regular Board Meeting 6:33 p.m.

**Public Comments**

Mrs. Barb Dimler from Bensenville Wood Dale VFW presented information regarding their Scholarship opportunity and teacher awards programs.

**Celebrations**

- **End-of-Year Staff Celebration & Recognition:** Dr. McCluskey reported on the District 2 employees recognition event and shared a video of the celebration. The celebration recognized staff who retired, reached milestone anniversaries with the District, earned tenure with the District, and/or were honored by their peers with the District’s “Those That Excel” Awards during a May 22 celebration at White Pines Golf Club.

**Presentations**

- A. **Student Academic Growth Update** – Dr. Anne Paonessa, Assistant Superintendent for Teaching & Learning reported that District 2 students achieved higher growth and achievement results this year on standardized NWEA MAP tests in math and reading. Also, in both elementary schools, English Learner students showed strong growth in English language development as measured by the annual ACCESS assessment. The District 2 administration is proud of the progress it is seeing in student growth and achievement.



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### Board Committee Reports

- A. Announcements - none

### Administrative Reports

- A. **Announcements** - none
- B. **FOIA** – Mr. Novack reported that there was one: SmartProcure, Purchasing records from 3/4/2024 to present.
- C. **Hiring Report** - Dr. McCluskey reported that the District is currently in the height of hiring season. Across the District, there are 12 teaching positions, 13 aide positions, 1 assistant principal position, and 3 lunch supervisor/crossing guards' positions still to be filled. Many of these interviews are already in progress now. District 2 Administration hopes to bring many hiring recommendations to the Board's July 17 meeting. So far, the pool of candidates has been great, and those that have been hired have been very impressive.
- D. **Construction Update** - Mr. Novack reported that rapid progress is underway inside and outside Blackhawk Middle School. The classroom addition will be enclosed soon. Improvements to existing classrooms are underway throughout the building. The foundation for the gym addition has been poured with brickwork to follow immediately. Courtyard renovations will begin next week. Inside, the conversion of three rooms into nine small meeting spaces is progressing rapidly.
- E. **Update on new Title IX Policy Revisions** – Dr. McCluskey reported that an extensive new Title IX sexual discrimination regulations will become effective August 1. District 2 Administration presented the Board with an overview of the changes that are expected, and will bring a recommendation to amend the District's policy to the Board for approval after PRESS releases its revised policy on August 1.

### Consent Items

#### A. **Approval of Minutes**

- 1. Regular Board of Education Meeting – May 15, 2024

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

#### B. **Approval of Financial Reports**

- 1. Bills May 2024
  - a. Accounts Payable
  - b. Imprest Checks
  - c. Advanced Checks
  - d. Credit Card Payments
  - e. Construction Checks
- 2. Financial Statements as of May 31, 2024

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

#### C. **Personnel**

##### I. **Resignations of Administrative & Certified Staff**

The following certified staff members have submitted their resignations:

- 1. Hope Chamberlin 3rd Grade Teacher, Tioga School.
- 2. Tracy Ibeling, Music Teacher, Tioga School.
- 3. Kelly Presa, 3rd Grade Bilingual Teacher, Johnson School.
- 4. Amber Soike, Assistant Principal at Tioga School.
- 5. Mara Sveteckis, 8th Grade Resource Teacher, Blackhawk Middle School.
- 6. Vanessa Campos, Teacher on Special Assignment and CURES Coordinator, Blackhawk Middle School.
- 7. Elizabeth Esparza, Dual Language Kindergarten Teacher, Tioga School.
- 8. Kacey Russell, 6<sup>th</sup> Grade Math Teacher, Blackhawk Middle School.

**Recommendation:** No action by the Board of Education is necessary for these resignations.

##### II. **Resignation of Classified Staff**



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The following classified staff member has submitted their resignation:

1. Alexi Littmann, Part Time SPED ALS Paraprofessional, Blackhawk Middle School.
2. Emily Soto, Part-Time Dual Language Paraprofessional, Tioga School.
3. Nadia Arreguin, Dual Language Paraprofessional, Tioga School.

**Recommendation:** No action by the Board of Education is necessary for these resignations.

### III. Ratification of Employment for 2023-2024, Administrative Staff

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

1. Mary Hamilton, Coordinator of Students Services, Blackhawk Middle School, effective July 1, 2024.
2. Monica Loveshe, Assistant Principal, Tioga School, effective July 1, 2024.

### IV. Ratification of Employment for 2024-2025, Certified Staff

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

1. Monzerraht Rios Carreon, Bilingual Pre-K Teacher, Tioga School, effective August 15, 2024.
2. Jose Carrera, Teacher on Special Assignment, Tioga School, effective August 15, 2024.
3. Jennifer Carlson, 5th Grade Classroom Teacher, Johnson School, effective August 15, 2024.
4. Concetta Gaspar, English Language Arts/English Learners, Blackhawk Middle School, effective August 15, 2024.
5. Zuzanna Godawski, Teacher on Special Assignment, Blackhawk Middle School, effective August 15, 2024
6. Shayna Lee, Music Teacher, Tioga School, effective August 15, 2024.
7. Matthew Ramel, Teacher on Special Assignment, Blackhawk Middle School, effective August 15, 2024.
8. Katherine Smith, Art Teacher, Tioga School, effective August 15, 2024.
9. Stacey Villalobos, Bilingual Speech Pathologist, Blackhawk Middle School, effective August 15, 2024.

### V. Ratification of Employment for 2024-2025, Classified Staff

**Recommendation:** That the Board of Education approves the employment of Natalie Voth, Kindergarten SpEd aide at Tioga, effective August 19, 2024.

### VI. Termination of Classified Staff

**Recommendation:** That the Board of Education terminates the following classified staff members:

1. Sherin Daniel, Special Education Paraprofessional, Johnson School, effective May 30, 2024.
2. Annette Vale, Special Education Paraprofessional, Tioga School, effective June 21, 2024.

### VII. Parental Leave Request – see after closed session

### VIII. Starting Pay for Classified Positions

**Recommendation:** That the Board of Education approve the hourly rates for newly-hired and recently-hired classified staff as listed.

1. Paraprofessionals in Classrooms: starting rate of \$16.80. Extra-duty stipends for certain kinds of aides remain the same as last year.
2. Lunch Aides & Crossing Guards: starting rate of \$15.00, which is the Illinois minimum wage for 2025.
3. Recently-hired Lunch Aides & Crossing Guards: new rates are proposed as shown to be consistent with the new \$15.00 starting rate:

Name	Rate
Maria Castro Botello	15.25
Amanda Gerstmayr	15.00
Yenia Y Monarrez Aguilera	15.25
Diana I Sanchez	15.25
Carolyn Marie Weiler	15.25



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Raquel Villasenor Hernandez

15.00

### D. Resolution to Transfer Interest Income to Education Fund

**Recommendation:** That the Board of Education adopt the attached resolution allocating interest income among its Funds.

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

#### Roll Call Vote:

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

**Nay:** None

**Absent:** Laudadio, Stoltman,

**Motion Carried.**

#### Conference/Action Items

- A. Adoption of 2023-2024 Amended Budget** – Mr. Novack reported that the fiscal year closes on June 30. The projected surplus is \$1.6 million, which is higher than budgeted. Expenses are expected to be about 1% less than as originally budgeted. Revenues are expected to be about 1.5% more than budgeted.

The amendment was provided for public review beginning Tuesday, May 21, 2024. A public hearing was held on June 20, 2024. The amended budget does not, in the aggregate, authorize new spending. It does shift authorization among categories and funds.

A motion was made by Mrs. Gonzalez and seconded by Mrs. Dye that the Board adopt the amended budget as proposed.

#### Roll Call Vote:

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

**Nay:** None

**Absent:** Laudadio, Stoltman,

**Motion Carried.**

- B. Award Food Service Contract** – Mr. Novack reported that for the 2024-25 school year, the District sought bids from food service providers. Public notice was given on April 11, 2024, and 18 companies were directly solicited. Sealed bids were received and opened on May 29, 2024, from four companies.

<u>Company</u>	<u>Bid Amount</u>
Arbor Management	1,037,230.00
Sodexo	1,055,001.50
OrganicLife	1,092,075.00
Gourmet Gorilla	1,130,025.00

Both Illinois law and Federal law direct that the bid is to be awarded to the lowest bidder whose bid meets the bid specifications and who is capable of fulfilling the contract. Administration compared first the Arbor bid and then the Sodexo bid against the criteria in the solicitation and asked clarifying questions of the bidders.

Arbor Management's bid did not match the District's menu specifications and so it was disqualified. Sodexo's bid met the District's requirements and it is therefore the lowest responsive bid.

The State Board of Education has authorized the District's proposed award to Sodexo at the price above.

After the State Board authorized the award, Sodexo offered lower unit prices for breakfast and lunch.. These changes would reduce the total annual cost by nearly \$18,000.



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**A motion was made by Mrs. Miller and seconded by Ms. Parthimos that the Board of Education award the 2024-25 contract to Sodexo using either the unit prices as offered May 29 or such other unit prices, not to exceed the May 29 prices, as may be agreed with Sodexo and that legal counsel advises are permitted by law.**

**Roll Call Vote:**

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

**Nay:** None

**Absent:** Laudadio, Stoltman,

**Motion Carried.**

- C. Approval of Donation of Surplus Material** – Mr. Novack reported that to prepare, nearly all student desks and chairs and most teacher desks and chairs have been removed by Armstrong Relocation, the moving company. They have found a non-profit, the Chicago Furniture Bank, that will take all of the furniture right away so that we do not have to store it while finding a receiver for the materials.

Student chairs that are less than 10 years old were retained and so were teacher chairs that were in good condition. Some teacher desks were retained for use elsewhere if needed. Metal bookcases were mostly in very poor condition. They were designated for scrap, because of their age and because the Furniture Bank did not accept them.

As a result, they have de minimis value and Administration did not believe it could find a buyer. Other area districts with identical student desks were seeking donees for them as recently as June 12, 2024.

**A motion was made by Mrs. Dye and seconded by Mrs. Gonzalez that the Board of Education approve the donation of desks and chairs to the Chicago Furniture Bank.**

**Roll Call Vote:**

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

**Nay:** None

**Absent:** Laudadio, Stoltman,

**Motion Carried.**

- D. Change Orders** – Mr. Novack reported that the Board has awarded 20 contracts for the renovation of Blackhawk Middle School this summer. Work is underway.

Mr. Novack also reported that the following changes are proposed to be added to the contracts for the renovation.

Description of the Change	Contractor's Name	Amount	Rationale for Approval
Teacher chairs and some extra teacher desks are being added to the original order.	Midwest Educational Furnishings	\$41,463	Germane to the original contract and in the District's best interest.
New cabinets will be installed in 12 classrooms in the building's original wing. They replace 1960s-era cabinets now in poor condition. This need was not identified during the design phase.	Carroll, as subcontractor to DBM Services	TBD, estimated at \$20,000	Germane to the original contract and in the District's best interest.
Old walls and soffits were removed in about 12 classrooms. This revealed a different sub wall and ceiling structure than anticipated. Instead of lowering the ceiling throughout the room to match, a soffit will be built along one wall to cover the wall gap and to meet fire code. The	DBM Services	TBD	Germane to the original contract, in the District's best interest, and not reasonably foreseeable when the contract was signed.



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Description of the Change	Contractor's Name	Amount	Rationale for Approval
solution matches work that was done in 2020 to the science rooms.			
The painting contract includes the outside of all lockers. The inside of about 150 lockers will also be repainted to cover the red interior. The rest are taupe-colored on the inside and will not be added to the contract. This is a scaled-down version of an alternate that was rejected after the bid solicitation, Repainting the inside of all 1,000 lockers was bid as an alternate during the bid solicitation phase but was rejected.	Ascher Brothers	TBD	Germane to the original contract and in the District's best interest.
A sidewalk in the front of the building was identified as an alternate in the original bid solicitation but not accepted at that time.	Builders Concrete	\$15,000	Germane to the original contract and in the District's best interest.
Certain door openings were different sizes than originally specified. The original items are to be deleted from the contract. The replacement items are more expensive.	Advanced Door & Hardware	\$10,000	Germane to the original contract, in the District's best interest, and not reasonably foreseeable when the contract was signed.
For the new gym, additional limestone facing will be added at one corner location, replacing brick specified in the original design, to better match the existing limestone already in place.	A-One Group	\$6,473	Germane to the original contract, in the District's best interest, and not reasonably foreseeable when the contract was signed.

The District's construction manager carefully monitors these possible changes and consults frequently about them with the Superintendent and the Chief Financial Officer. Different solutions are always discussed before selecting the recommended one. The overall renovation project is under budget. It will still be under budget with these changes.

**A motion was made by Mrs. Dye and seconded by Ms. Parthimos that the Board of Education approve the changes described above for the specific reasons noted.**

**Roll Call Vote:**

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

**Nay:** None

**Absent:** Laudadio, Stoltman,

**Motion Carried.**

**New Business**

- Dr. McCluskey reported that the website will have a refresh and redesign and asked that Board members review the information on their Bios and have them back by the next board meeting 7/17/2024 in order for them to be current on the new website.

**Closed Session**

**At 7:31 p.m. motion was made by Mrs. Miller and seconded by Mrs. Gonzalez that the Board of Education go into closed session for:**



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- A. Personnel** - The appointment, employment, compensation, discipline, performance, or dismissal of specific employees of the District. 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(1), as amended by P.A. 93-0057.

**Roll Call Vote:**

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

**Nay:** None

**Absent:** Laudadio, Stoltman,

**Motion Carried.**

At 7:41 p.m. motion was made by Ms. Parthimos and seconded by Mrs. Dye that the Board of Education adjourned from closed session. Upon voice vote, all board members present voted aye. Motion carried.

**Action from closed session:**

A motion was made by Mrs. Miller and seconded by Mrs. Dye that the Board of Education respectfully deny the request for parent leave for Kelly Lukanich, a part time, non-tenured teacher.

**Roll Call Vote:**

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

**Nay:** None

**Absent:** Laudadio, Stoltman,

**Motion Carried.**

**Adjournment**

At 7:42 p.m. a motion was made by Mrs. Dye and seconded by Mrs. Gonzalez that the Board of Education adjourned the meeting. Upon voice vote, all board members present voted aye. Motion carried.

No further business appearing Mrs. Leyva adjourned the meeting at 7:42 p.m.

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President

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Secretary