



Bensenville Elementary School District 2

Board of Education Regular Meeting

Minutes –October 16, 2024

President Bob Laudadio called the regular meeting of the Bensenville Elementary School District 2 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:

Board of Education	Title	Present	Absent
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
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

Pledge of Allegiance – Mr. Laudadio led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Public Comments:

- Mrs. Karen Hernandez regarding a transportation issue.

Celebrations

District 2 celebrated five employee recognition days in October: National Custodial Workers Day (October 2), National School Lunch Week (October 9-13), National School Bus Safety Week (October 16-20), Illinois Principal Appreciation Day (October 20), and National Physical Therapy Month. The Board viewed a short video recognizing District 2 employees in each of those groups. Dr. McCluskey thanked the staff for their service.

Board Committee Reports

A. Announcements – none

B. IASB 2024 Resolutions Committee Report – Dr. McCluskey asked that board members review the IASB 2024 Resolutions Committee Report and be prepared to report at the next meeting how they would like Ms. Dye, the BSD2 Delegate, to vote at the IASB Conference in November.

Administrative Reports

A. Announcements - Dr. McCluskey reported that the second Foreign Language in the Elementary Schools (FLES) committee meeting was held. The committee developed the Mission, Vision and Goals in regards to the FLES committee. The next meeting will be held in November.

B. FOIA – Mr. Novack reported that there were two FOIA's.

1. DuPage Policy Journal Media, Student evacuation plan in the case of active shooting, denied, because records are exempt from disclosure.
 2. RJB Properties Commercial Copies of ABM contract and six recent invoices. This is pending completion.
- C. Enrollment Report** – Dr. McCluskey reported that enrollment across the District remains similar to last year. A small increase is attributed to growth in the District’s birth-to-3 program.
- D. Construction Update** – Mr. Novack reported that the work at Blackhawk Middle School is wrapping up on the new small gym, the courtyards and other small punch list items. It is expected to be completed later this month. The entire BSD2 community will be invited to see the newly-renovated school and celebrate this accomplishment in the near future.
- E. Expiration of TIF and effect on 2024 Tax Levy** – Two tax increment financing districts (TIFs) established 23 years ago by the Village of Bensenville expire this year. The properties in the two districts will add about \$430,000 to the District's 2024 tax levy.
- F. Quarterly Financial Reports:** Mr. Novack reported that through the first quarter of the 2024-2025 fiscal year, revenue and expenditures are coming in as forecast.

Consent Items

A. Approval of Minutes

1. Regular Board of Education Meeting – September 18, 2024
2. Regular Board of Education Meeting – September 18, 2024 - Closed Session
3. Regular Board of Education Meeting - August 21, 2024 (revised)

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

B. Approval of Financial Reports

1. Bills August 2024
 - a) Accounts Payable
 - b) Imprest Checks
 - c) Advanced Checks with Addendum
 - d) Credit Card Payments
2. Financial Statements as of September 30, 2024
3. Quarterly Investment Report

Recommendation: The Board of Education approves the above listed 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:

1. Theresa Lee, Lunch/Recess Supervisor, Tioga School, effective September 26, 2024.
2. Diana Loza, Lunch/Recess Supervisor, Tioga School, effective October 16, 2024.

II. Parental Leave Request

Recommendation: No Board action is required for this request.

1. Tania Chlimon will begin maternity leave later this school year. She has requested a parental leave from the maternity’s leave’s completion until the end of the school year. She is a 5th grade teacher at Tioga School. She has tenure.

III. Resignation of Classified Staff

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

The following classified staff members have submitted their resignations for retirement:

1. Paul Novack, Certified Financial Officer for the District effective June 30, 2025
2. Debbie Geils, Admin. Assistant for the Chief Financial Officer for the District, effective June 30, 2025
3. Jennifer Medley, Accounts Payable and Purchasing for the District, effective June 30, 2025

The following classified staff members have submitted their resignations:

4. Jacqueline DeAnda, Dual Language Paraprofessional, Tioga School effective December 20, 2024.

- Melissa Whisenhunt, Bus Driver for the District, effective October 3, 2024.

IV. Approval of Long-Term Substitute

Recommendation: That the Board of Education ratifies the employment of Ellen Forster, Long-term substitute for a Special Education ISP Self Contained teacher, Johnson School, effective October 4th for eight to twelve weeks.

V. Resignation for Retirement of Certified Staff

Recommendation: No action by the Board of Education is necessary for this resignation.

- Caren Krolikiewicz, ESL Teacher, Johnson School has submitted their resignation for retirement effective the end of the 2024-25 school year.

A motion was made by Ms. 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, Laudadio, Miller

Nay: None

Absent: Leyva, Stoltman

Motion Carried.

Conference/Action Items

A. Approval of Resolution to Estimate 2024 Tax Levy – Mr. Novack reported that a proposed resolution is attached estimating the 2024 tax levy. This resolution is the first step to collect property taxes for the 2025-26 school year. In this step, the Board estimates the amounts to be raised by property taxation. This estimate meets requirements in the Illinois Truth in Taxation Law.

The next two steps occur in November. The Board will hold a hearing on the estimated increase and will consider a resolution to levy the tax for 2025-26.

Separate levies will be estimated in the resolution for seven of the District’s eight funds. The Bond Fund levy is not estimated here because no estimate is required. Bond Fund levies are created by a different process than the other levies.

Mr. Novack also reported that this resolution is an estimate rather than the actual levy. The estimate is \$34,527,000 for all funds except the Bond Fund. The actual tax levy will be proposed in November.

The increase over the prior year is derived from three factors.

Inflation Rate, 2023	3.40%
New Construction Estimate	1.82%
District’s Likely Increase	5.22%
Cushion (see Options section)	0.46%
Estimate for Truth in Taxation Law	5.68%
Amounts are rounded	

Although the official estimate for Truth in Taxation is 5.68%, the likely increase is 5.22% in the District’s total tax, from two components.

- The inflation component is the 12-month Consumer Price Index change reported for December 2023. It is 3.4%.
- The new construction component permits the District to increase its aggregate levy beyond the CPI factor. New construction is unusually large this year. The largest effects are from the expiration of TIF 6 at Route 83 and Thorndale and new warehouse construction at the east end of Green Street.

The typical taxpayer will have a 3.25% increase if their value increases at the same 7% as most parcels are increasing this year. Individual results will be different for valuation changes above or below 7%. Valuation increases and

decreases do not affect the District's total tax collection. They only affect how the District's total tax is divided among the District's property owners.

Mr. Novack reported that this estimate proposes a 0.46% cushion in addition to the 5.22% likely increase.

The cushion serves two purposes: (1) if new construction is higher than estimated, then the District can fully increase its levy to tax all the new construction; and (2) it creates flexibility for the District next spring to adjust individual fund levies up or down as needed without changing the total levy.

The aggregate cushion can only be levied if new construction exceeds estimates.

A motion was made by Mrs. Gonzalez and seconded by Mrs. Miller that the Board of Education adopts the resolution estimating money necessary to be raised by taxation in tax year 2024 (collected 2025) as presented and attached.

Roll Call Vote:

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

Nay: None

Absent: Leyva, Stoltman

Motion Carried.

B. Award 3-year Contract for Tioga Detention Basin Restoration & Maintenance – Mr. Novack reported that a large detention basin is located at Tioga School along York Road. A grass surface covers all but about one acre at the south end. Although the basin has a dry bottom, the deepest portion at the south end remains damp because the groundwater level there was re-designed in 2020 to remain high. The dampness encourages rapid plant growth.

Invasive plants have therefore overgrown the south end. They are unattractive and do not help filter sediments from the water. This portion of the basin needs to be fully cleared and replanted with appropriate species.

Engineering Solutions Team has designed the restoration project, prepared bidding documents, and reviewed the bids. The District consulted about the project with the Village's Public Works Department, which undertakes similar work at its detention basins.

The restoration will begin this fall with a full clearance of all existing plants in the south end and then a controlled burn. The drainage system that is underneath will be protected during this work. During the winter, the bare ground will be protected from run-off. New turf and new plants will be added in spring 2025. Annual maintenance is included from 2025 to 2027, including a maintenance burn in 2026.

Mr. Novack reported that sealed bids were publicly solicited on September 17, 2024, and were opened on October 8. Three bids were submitted:

<u>Bidder</u>	<u>Bid</u>
V3	\$188,025.50
Baxter & Woodman	\$193,275.00
Semper Fi	\$280,010.00

V3's bid is recommended. Its proposed price is slightly below the project estimate prepared by Engineering Solutions Team. References for V3 from three local governments were all positive, all involving projects as large or larger than this project. The firm enjoys a good reputation with the Village of Bensenville.

The restoration phase is about \$154,000, the 3 years' maintenance is about \$19,000, and the allowance for unexpected work is \$15,000.

Mr. Novack reported that the basin maintenance is essential to filtering groundwater and to maintaining the basin's appearance. In future years, regular maintenance will be considerably less expensive than this one-time restoration.

A motion was made by Ms. Dye and seconded by Mrs. Gonzalez that the Board of Education award to V3 the contract for detention basin restoration and maintenance for \$188,025.50.

Roll Call Vote:

Aye: Dye, Gonzalez, Laudadio, Miller, Parthimos

Nay: None

Absent: Leyva, Stoltman

Motion Carried.

Closed Session

- None

Adjournment

At 6:50 p.m. a motion was made by Ms. Dye and seconded by Mrs. Miller that the Board of Education adjourned the meeting. Upon voice vote, all board members present voted aye. Motion carried.

No further business appearing, Mr. Laudadio adjourned the meeting at 6:50 p.m.

President

Secretary