

**BELFAST CENTRAL SCHOOL**  
**BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING MINUTES**  
**November 12, 2024**

**School Board Members Present:** Becky Backer, Jonathan Barney, Russell Calanni, Cecy Curcio, Chris Enders, Randa Harrington, Josie Preston

**Absent:** none

**District Personnel:** Wendy Butler Ed. D, Superintendent, Rick Bull, 5-12 Principal, Chelsey Aylor, PK-4 Principal, Keegan Harrington, Business Manager, Gina Larrabee, District Clerk,

**Others:** Danielle Bainbridge

At 5:30 p.m. the meeting was called to order by Josie Preston, President.

- Financial** Keegan Harrington, Business Manager presented Budget Status and Revenue Status reports, September warrants, and the Internal Claims audit report. He provided September Treasurer's report, the 2025-2026 Budget Calendar, and the Corrective Action Plan for the 2023-2024 independent audit.
- Leadership Reports** Principal Rick Bull shared information about the June 2025 Washington trip for eighth grade students stating as prices increase, staff are strategizing ways to mitigate cost. Mr. Bull shared a quarterly discipline report with the Board. Principal Chelsey Aylor spoke about the scheduled Mandated Reporter Training and shared an update on CPI training. Both trainings are for all employees. Dr. Wendy Butler provided a building project update stating tasks continue to be completed. She stated we are still within timelines, and she will be glad to see everything completed. Dr. Butler spoke about a regionalization plan, shared resources, and keeping our kids in school.
- Consent Agenda** Motion by Becky Backer, seconded by Cecy Curcio, adopted the following Consent Agenda Items as recommended by the superintendent:  
Approved the minutes from the October 8, 2024 meeting.  
Approved the Treasurer's reports dated September 2024.  
Approved the CSE/ CPSE/ 504 committee recommendations as presented.  
Unanimously carried

**Board Actions**  
**BOE Policy Adoption**

Motion by Jonathan Barney, seconded by Randa Harrington, adopted the identified policies that were reviewed at the October 8, 2024 meeting, as recommended by the superintendent.

- o Policy 5661 Wellness
- o Policy: 5681 School Safety Plan
- o Policy: 5683 Evacuation, Lockdown, and Emergency Dismissal Drills
- o Policy: 6550 Leaves of Absences
- o Policy: 7220 Graduation Requirements
- o Policy: 1640 Absentee Ballots
- o Policy: 7223 Advanced Coursework
- o Policy: 7470 Student Government
- o Policy: 7224 Virtual Instruction
- o Policy: 5840 Artificial Intelligence (AI)

Carried 7-0

- Over 65 Tax Exemption** Motion by Becky Backer, seconded by Randa Harrington, approved the proposed school tax exemption for District residents who are over 65 years old, as recommended by the superintendent. Carried 7-0
- Washington DC Trip** Motion by Randa Harrington, seconded by Chris Enders, approved a grade trip to Washington, D.C., for 8h grade students, March 5-8, 2025, as recommended by the superintendent. Carried 7-0
- Varsity Basketball Trip** Motion by Chris Enders, seconded by Randa Harrington, approved an overnight trip for the boys' varsity basketball team to attend a NBA game and play in Cleveland December 1-2, 2024, as recommended by the superintendent. Carried 7-0
- Varsity Baseball Trip** Motion by Chris Enders, seconded by Cecy Curcio, approved an overnight trip for the boys' varsity baseball team to attend a MLB game and play in NYC April 13-16, 2025, as recommended by the superintendent. Carried 7-0
- 23-24 Independent Audit Corrective Action Plan** Motion by Becky Backer, seconded by Jonathan Barney, approved the 23-24 Independent Audit Corrective Action Plan as presented, as recommended by the superintendent. Carried 7-0
- Out-Of-District Student** Motion by Randa Harrington, seconded by Becky Backer, approved Wybie Merrill as an out-of-district student for the 24-25 school year, as recommended by the superintendent. Carried 7-0

**PERSONNEL**  
**Appointments**

Motion by Becky Backer, seconded by Cecy Curcio, approved the following appointments, as recommended by the Superintendent.

**Substitutes**

Approved the following instructional substitutes for the 24-25 school year:

- Gregory Cecil
- Marilee Olsen (certified teacher)
- Kelsie Ashley
- Anastasia Belcer

Approved the following non-instructional substitutes for the 24-25 school year:

- Gregory Cecil
- Anastasia Belcer

Approved the following athletic appointments for the 24-25 school year:

- Autumn Michalski- volunteer modified cheer coach
- McKenzie Hamer -Boys' JV Basketball
- Bret Longwell- Boys' Modified Basketball
- Cooper Weinman- Boys' Modified Basketball

**Permanent appointments**

Permanently appointed Patrick Histed, who has successfully completed a one-year probationary appointment, to the position of groundskeeper effective December 1, 2024.

Permanently appointed Anthony Piwko, who has successfully completed a one-year probationary appointment, to the position of teacher aide effective November 16, 2024.

**Chaperones**

Appointed the following winter athletic chaperones:

- Laura Brace
- Joanne Ross
- Jess Weaver
- Cassie Warnica
- Shelly Calanni

- Resignation** Accepted Luke Schriver's resignation from his position as an ELA teacher effective November 10, 2024.
- ELA Appointment** Appointed Angelina Belcer who is working toward an initial NYS Certificate permitting her to teach ELA in grades 7-12, to the position of English Language Arts Teacher in the secondary ELA tenure area for a probationary period of four years, to commence November 22, 2024, and to end November 22, 2028. Eligibility for tenure at the end of the probationary period is dependent on Miss Belcer receiving APPR ratings of Effective or Highly Effective in 2 of 3 preceding years and no ineffective composite or overall ratings in the final year. Miss Belcer's salary for the 24-25 school year will be at Step B of the BTA negotiated contract plus 27 graduate credit hours.
- Accompanist** Approved Benjamin John Van Tine to be the accompanist for winter concerts. The rate of pay for an accompanist is \$30/hour and up to 40 total hours for an accompanist are approved for the 24-25 school year.
- Resignation** Accepted Jessica Romance's resignation for the auditorium lighting coordinator.
- Appointment** Appointed Rebekah Brennan to the position of auditorium lighting coordinator for the 24-25 school year.
- Leave of Absence adjustment** Approved Lizzy Austin's adjusted leave for September 18-January 5, 2025.
- Unanimously carried
- Executive Session** A motion by Randa Harrington, seconded by Chris Enders, moved into executive session at 6:05pm to discuss personnel or legal matters for purposes specified in the open meeting law. Carried 7-0
- A motion by Becky Backer, seconded by Cecy Curcio, moved out of executive session at 7:11pm to discuss personnel or legal matters for purposes specified in the open meeting law. Carried 7-0
- Adjournment** Motion by Cecy Curcio, seconded by Becky Backer, adjourned the meeting at 7:12pm. Carried 7-0

Respectfully Submitted,



District Clerk