

**BETHANY BOARD OF EDUCATION  
Regular Meeting Minutes  
BCS Learning Commons  
November 13, 2024**

**Present**

Angelo Amato  
Susan Bradford  
Joseph Cafasso  
John Paul Garcia  
Shannon Lane  
Caroline Leary  
Shawn Uscilla

**Administration**

Kai Byrd  
Cheryl Kiesel  
Tom Reed-Swale

**Absent**

Amy Lestinsky  
EJ Maher

**Call to Order**

Mr. Garcia called the meeting to order at 6:31 p.m.

**Change to Agenda**

**Motion** by Cafasso, seconded by Lane to amend the agenda to include a report from the Facilities Committee as item 5c on the agenda. *The motion carries 7 yes (Amato, Bradford, Cafasso, Garcia, Lane, Leary, Uscilla), 2 absent (Lestinsky, Maher)*

**PTO Report**

Mrs. Zaldo reported on recent and upcoming PTO events.

**Public Comment**

None

**Minutes**

**Motion** by Cafasso, seconded by Leary to accept the October 9, 2024 Regular Meeting Minutes as presented. *The motion carries 6 yes (Amato, Bradford, Cafasso, Garcia, Lane, Leary), 2 absent (Lestinsky, Maher), 1 abstain (Uscilla)*

**Committee Reports**

**Curriculum:**

The committee met on November 6, 2024. They received an update on Curriculum and Professional Learning and were provided an overview of the anticipated curriculum budget drivers in the 2025-2026 proposed budget.

**Finance:**

**Motion** by Amato, seconded by Uscilla to accept the report of expenditures and adjustments to the 2024-2025 Operating Budget through October 31, 2024. *The motion carries 7 yes (Amato, Bradford, Cafasso, Garcia, Lane, Leary, Uscilla), 2 absent (Lestinsky, Maher).*

**Facilities:**

The committee met on November 12, 2024 and received a building and grounds report. The committee discussed the next steps on the north campus ramp repair.

**Unfinished Business**

None

**New Business**

**Motion** by Cafasso, seconded by Amato to accept Policies 4000.1 and 5145.44 as presented with mandated revisions for first reading. *The motion carries 7 yes (Amato, Bradford, Cafasso, Garcia, Lane, Leary,*

*Uscilla, 2 absent (Lestinsky, Maher).*

**Motion** by Uscilla, seconded by Amato to accept Policy 5145.53 as presented for recommended retirement for first reading. *The motion carries 7 yes (Amato, Bradford, Cafasso, Garcia, Lane, Leary, Uscilla, 2 absent (Lestinsky, Maher).*

**Motion** by Leary, seconded by Cafasso to accept Policies 5141.211 and 6146.2 as presented with recommended revisions for first reading. *The motion carries 7 yes (Amato, Bradford, Cafasso, Garcia, Lane, Leary, Uscilla, 2 absent (Lestinsky, Maher).*

**Motion** by Lane, seconded by Uscilla to accept Policy 5133 as presented with technical revisions for first reading. *The motion carries 7 yes (Amato, Bradford, Cafasso, Garcia, Lane, Leary, Uscilla, 2 absent (Lestinsky, Maher).*

**Motion** by Leary, seconded by Lane to accept Policies 6000, 6114, 6115, 6141.312, and 6161.2 as presented with no revisions for first reading. *The motion carries 7 yes (Amato, Bradford, Cafasso, Garcia, Lane, Leary, Uscilla, 2 absent (Lestinsky, Maher).*

Mrs. Byrd presented the proposed 2025-2026 School Calendar for the Board's consideration and answered questions from Board members.

#### **Superintendent Report**

Mrs. Byrd reported that on October 31, 2024, PK-6 enrollment was 431 students.

Mrs. Byrd provided a personnel update.

Mrs. Byrd provided an update on the BCS K.I.D.S Program.

#### **Director Report**

Ms. Kiesel reported on Curriculum and Special Services and took questions from Board members.

#### **Principal Report**

Mr. Reed-Swale reported on BCS's recent and upcoming events and took questions from Board members.

#### **Chairman Report**

Mr. Garcia thanked Mr. Uscilla for his work on the Facilities Committee.

Mr. Garcia thanked Ms. Bradford for her work on the Policy Committee.

Mr. Garcia thanked the school staff and administration who participated in the town's trunk or treat event.

#### **Communications**

None

#### **Public Comment**

None

#### **Executive Session**

**Motion** by Amato, seconded by Leary that the Board of Education enter into Executive Session to discuss the Superintendent's goals and Kai Byrd is invited to attend. *The motion carries 7 yes (Amato, Bradford, Cafasso, Garcia, Lane, Leary, Uscilla, 2 absent (Lestinsky, Maher).*

**Present**

Angelo Amato  
Susan Bradford  
Joseph Cafasso  
John Paul Garcia  
Shannon Lane  
Caroline Leary  
Shawn Uscilla

**Other**

Kai Byrd

**Absent**

Amy Lestinsky  
EJ Maher

**Reconvene**

Moved from Executive Session and the regular meeting reconvened at 8:24 p.m.

**Adjournment**

The meeting adjourned at 8:24 p.m.

**Visitors in Attendance**

**In Person: 2**

**On Livestream: No Livestream for this meeting**

Donna Ricciardi  
Recording Secretary

APPROVED