



Bensenville Elementary School District 2
 Board of Education Rescheduled Regular Meeting
 Minutes – March 19, 2025

President Robert 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 arrived 6:43 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: Meredith Barrett, Terri Schwabe staff members.

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

Public Comments: none

Celebrations

Pop-Up Clothing Drive: Sixty-nine BSD2 families in need received more than 1,367 free clothing items and household goods on Saturday, March 1, at Tioga School during a distribution of donations collected recently from District 2 staff and community members. The pop-up clothing drive was the third of its kind conducted in Bensenville by the People's Resource Center in partnership with District 2 and Community Friends.

BMS Spring Musical: Blackhawk Middle School's spring musical, "Moana JR.," hits the stage this weekend. The show features a cast and crew of more than 70 students. Performances are scheduled for 7 p.m. Friday and Saturday, and 2 p.m. Sunday. Tickets are \$5 for students, \$6 for adults.

IASB Established Board Leader: The Illinois Association of School Boards recognized Bob Laudadio, President of the BSD2 Board of Education, with its "Established Board Leader" designation for his time and effort devoted to learning and leadership activities provided by the Association, and for his service to the public education community.

Presentations

A. FGM Architects regarding W.A. Johnson School spaces for ACE Instruction Johnson ACE Classrooms: At W.A. Johnson School instruction for accelerated reading and math is currently provided in open areas at the end of the fourth- and fifth-grade wings. This summer, the District will enclose those two open areas, converting each into enclosed classrooms, similar to what was done to the ACE classrooms at Tioga School last summer. [FGM Architects reviewed this project](#) with the Board.

Board Committee Reports

- none

Administrative Reports

A. Announcements – none

B. FOIA – Mr. Novack reported that there were 4 FOIAs:

1. Allium Data – Insurance Renewal summaries regarding property & casualty insurance
2. SmartProcure - Purchasing records from 11/25/2024 to present.
3. Painters District Council No. 30 – Records related to past and future painting projects.
4. Irene Brown Kelley – Records about policies and about a particular student matter.

C. Eighth-Grade Trip - On Thursday, May 29, Blackhawk Middle School’s eighth graders will celebrate the completion of their careers as BSD2 students with an architecture boat tour in downtown Chicago.

D. Eighth-Grade Promotion - The 8th grade promotion ceremony will be held at 7 p.m. Tuesday, June 3, in the field house at Fenton High School.

Consent Items

A. Approval of Minutes

1. Rescheduled Regular Board of Education Meeting – February 19, 2025
2. Rescheduled Regular Board of Education Meeting – February 19, 2025 - closed session

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

B. Approval of Financial Reports

1. Bills February 2025
 - a) Accounts Payable
 - b) Imprest Checks
 - c) Advanced Checks
 - d) Credit Card Payments
2. Financial Statements as of February 28, 2025

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

I. Ratification of Employment for 2025-2026, Certified Staff

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

1. Crystal Lopez, School Psychologist, Johnson School, effective August 14, 2025.
2. Emely Rovira, PreK Psychologist, Tioga Pre School, effective August 14, 2025.

II. Resignation of Classified Staff

Patty Koehn, Nurse at Blackhawk Middle School has submitted her resignation.

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

III. Ratification of Employment – Classified Staff

Recommendation: That the Board of Education ratifies the employment of Magdalena Miranda, Lunch Supervisor, Johnson School, effective March 10, 2025.

IV. Approval of Summer School Secretary

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

V. Summer School Staffing

Teacher	Assignment	Teacher	Assignment
Carola Llanes	Kinder-Dual Math	Caren Krolikiewicz	Grade 5-Math
Katty Esparza	Kinder-Dual Reading	Deanna Berardi	Grade 5--Reading
Sandy Brown	Kinder-Monolingual	Yesenia Nunez	Grade 5-Enrichment: Leadership

Teacher	Assignment	Teacher	Assignment
Bridget Tello	Kinder-Enrichment: Dual/Mono-Legos	Monika Piekutowski	Grade 6-Math
Alicia Palacios	Grade 1--Dual Math	Rosalia Cotsiomitis	Grade 6-Reading
Jamie Cazares	Grade 1--Dual Reading	David Ellett	Grade 6-Enrichment: Team Sports
Armando Campos	Grade 1-Enrichment: Dual-Legos and Board Games	Emma Alberico	Grade 7-Math
Mary Larsen	Grade 1-Math	Richard Delaney	Grade 7-Reading
Heather Glore	Grade 1-Reading	William Zeitler	Grade 7-Enrichment: Golf Thru Math
Alan DelRio	Grade 1-Enrichment: Mono-Sports	Lillian Grogan	Special Education Floater
Nilda Pantaleon	Grade 2--Dual Math	Jacqueline Ponce	Social Worker
Carolina Trujillo	Grade 2--Dual Reading	ENRICHMENT PROGRAM	Grades/Courses
Jose Galvan	Grade 2-Dual Enrichment: Origami	Laura Wojcieszek	Kindergarten, Grade 1- Enrichment: Crafts
Gloria Bek	Grade 2-Math	Tereon Teague	Kindergarten, Grade 1- Enrichment: Board Games
Stephanie Fitch	Grade 2-Reading	Sigal Orgad	Kindergarten, Grade 1- Enrichment: Games in Gym
Mary Yetter	Grade 2-Enrichment: Water Colors	Jennifer McGraw	Grade 4 – Grade 7-Enrichment: Gardening
Tara Schoepp	Grade 3-Math	Mayra Rojas	Grade 4 – Grade 7-Enrichment: Cricut
Courtney Segretto	Grade 3-Reading	Kristen Doell	Grade 4 – Grade 7-Enrichment: Creativity thru Stories
Blanca Delgado	Grade 3-Enrichment: Journalism/Crafts	Allison Morley	Grade 2- Grade 4-Enrichment: Technology
Amanda Hannapel	Grade 4-Math	Kristi Mullen	Grade 2- Grade 4-Enrichment: Board Games
Mercedes Childress	Grade 4-Reading	Cristina Nambo	Grade 2- Grade 4-Enrichment: Around World
Cami Philgreen	Grade 4-Enrichment: Digital Music Making	Meredith Barrett	SEL Floater

Recommendation: That the Board of Education ratifies the employment of the above-listed teachers for the 2025 Summer School programs.

VI. Approval of Long-Term Substitute

Recommendation: That the Board of Education ratifies the employment of Kelly Gruberman, long-term substitute for a Kindergarten teacher at Tioga School, from March 3, 2025, through the end of the 2024-2025 school year.

D. Gift Acceptance

Recommendation: That the Board of Education accept the restricted donations from the following:

1. \$2,400 from DuCAP for the Blackhawk Scholastic Bowl Team
2. \$5,000 from Subaru’s “Adopt-A-Classroom” program for Tioga School Teachers.

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

Roll Call Vote:

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

Ms. Parthimos joined the meeting at 6:43 p.m.

Conference/Action Item

A. Adoption of Literacy Program – Dr. Paonessa reported that the Bensenville 2 Literacy Committee (B2LC) was composed of teachers, reading specialists, and administrators that worked together in 2023-24 to identify core literacy beliefs and rubrics to evaluate literacy programs that would meet the needs of students in BSD2. In 2024-25, the team members piloted two separate programs and provided feedback. Based on teacher feedback and the identified criteria we are moving forward with the recommendation of HMH’s Into Reading, ¡Arriba la Lectura!, and Into Literature as the new core resource K-8. This program is also aligned with Fenton who also has adopted HMH. This will provide Bensenville students aligned English Language Arts instruction K-12.

Dr. Paonessa explained that the recommendation is based on HMH's ability to offer systematic literacy instruction, a curriculum that is both linguistically and culturally diverse, engaging and authentic texts to inspire a love of reading, instructional support to improve listening and speaking skills, and the necessary rigor and resources to promote the success of every learner.

Dr. Paonessa reported that A five-year purchase is recommended for a price not to exceed \$790,000. The purchase package includes online textbooks in English (about 1,800) and in Spanish (about 350); online teacher editions (about 120); workbooks (about 2,000 each year for five years); professional development both in-District and online; and a large variety of classroom materials such as books for reading and instructional aides for students at different skill levels.

A motion was made by Mrs. Gonzalez and seconded by Mrs. Dye that the Board of Education approve the purchase of HMH as presented to become the K-8 literacy resource effective in the 2025-26 school year.

Roll Call Vote:

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

B. Authorization for Johnson School ACE Classrooms Renovation Contracts – Dr. McCluskey reported that at Johnson School, instruction for accelerated reading and math is provided in open areas at the end of the 4th and 5th grade wings. The District proposes to enclose those two open areas this summer, converting each open area into classrooms.

FGM presented a rendering. Earlier this year, teachers and administrators at W.A. Johnson School met with FGM to discuss ideas for enclosing the spaces. Dr. McCluskey and Mr. Novack reviewed the plans as they developed.

Mr. Novack reported that BEAR Construction is proposed to act as general contractor. BEAR is a certified vendor in “The Interlocal Purchasing System” (TIPS), a government purchasing cooperative to which the District belongs. School Code authorizes purchases from TIPS and other cooperatives. TIPS solicits competitive pricing from thousands of vendors to simplify the bidding process for its member governments.

Mr. Novack reported that the price proposed by BEAR will be \$181,000. This is a cost of \$160 per square foot, about what FGM expected. Counsel to the District is preparing a contract between BEAR and the District that will adequately protect the District’s interests.

Mr. Novack reported that sealed bidding is another contracting process that could be used for construction projects. It is not recommended here because the cost of implementing it for a small project is likely to outweigh the possible savings and also because it would also be difficult to complete on the accelerated timeline for this project.

A motion was made by Mr. Stoltman and seconded by Mrs. Gonzalez that the Board of Education authorize Administration to enter into a construction contract with BEAR, for a price not to exceed \$195,000, on terms acceptable to Administration in consultation with District legal counsel.

Roll Call Vote:

Aye: Stoltman, Gonzalez, Dye, Laudadio, Parthimos,

Nay: None

Absent: Leyva, Miller

Motion Carried.

C. 2nd Reading & Adoption of Policy Revisions - Dr. McCluskey reported that these policy revisions have been reviewed as 1st reading at the February 26th meeting.

- Policy 4-110 - Transportation. The proposed changes incorporate School Code requirements to offer bus service in areas affected by gang crime.
- Policy 5-90 - Abused and Neglected Child Reporting. The proposed changes incorporate School Code requirements concerning notice to a student's parents upon allegations of employee sexual misconduct with that student or upon changes in employment status following such allegations.
- Policy 6-150 - Home and Hospital Instruction. The proposed changes acknowledge School Code requirements that advanced practice nurses and physician assistants are authorized to provide medical directives to the District.

These policies have been reviewed and no changes are recommended.

- Policy 6-30 - Organization of Instruction.
- Policy 6-110 - Programs for Students At Risk of Academic Failure and/or Dropping Out of School and Graduation Incentives Program.

A motion was made by Mrs. Dye and seconded by Ms. Parthimos that the Board of Education adopt the revised policies as presented for 2nd Reading:

- Policy 4-110 - Transportation.
- Policy 5-90 - Abused and Neglected Child Reporting.
- Policy 6-30 - Organization of Instruction.
- Policy 6-110 - Programs for Students at Risk of Academic Failure and/or Dropping Out of School and Graduation Incentives Program.
- Policy 6-150 - Home and Hospital Instruction.

Roll Call Vote:

Aye: Dye, Parthimos, Gonzalez, Laudadio, Stoltman,

Nay: None

Absent: Leyva, Miller

Motion Carried.

D. 1st Reading Policy Revisions - Dr. McCluskey reported that the four policies listed have not been reviewed in recent years. The Regional Office of Education noted that the policies are compliant but that laws have changed or that a periodic review is recommended. These policies have been reviewed and changes are proposed.

- Policy 6-135 - Accelerated Placement Program
- Policy 6-230 - Library Media Programs
- Policy 6-280 - Grading and Promotion
- Policy 7:260 - Exemption from Physical Education

Recommendation: That the Board of Education consider for First Reading the four policies above, in anticipation of possible adoption at a future board meeting

E. Set Date for Re-Organizational Meeting -Dr. McCluskey reported that the board will need to set a date to reorganize after the election. Discussion was held. It was recommended that the board hold the reorganization meeting on **Wednesday, April 23, 2025 at 6:30 p.m.**

New Business

- None

Closed Session

At 6:50 p.m. motion was made by Ms. Dye and seconded by Mrs. Gonzalez that the Board of Education go into closed session for the purpose of 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).)* **and matters relating to individual students. 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(10).**

Roll Call Vote:

Aye: Dye, Gonzalez, Laudadio, Parthimos, Stoltman,

Nay: None

Absent: Leyva, Miller

Motion Carried.

At 7:08 p.m. a motion was made by Mr. Stoltman and seconded by Ms. Parthimos that the Board of Education adjourned from closed session. Upon voice vote, all board members present voted aye. Motion carried.

Adjournment

At 7:10 p.m. a motion was made by Ms. Parthimos and seconded by Mr. Stoltman 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 7:10 p.m.

President

Secretary