

BETHANY BOARD OF EDUCATION
Regular Meeting Minutes
BCS Learning Commons
June 11, 2025

Present

Angelo Amato, arrived at 6:32 p.m.
Susan Bradford
Joseph Cafasso
John Paul Garcia
Shannon Lane, arrived at 7:22 p.m.
Amy Lestinsky

Administration

Kai Byrd
Cheryl Kiesel
Tom Reed-Swale

Absent

Caroline Leary
EJ Maher
Shawn Uscilla

Call to Order

Mr. Garcia called the meeting to order at 6:33 p.m.

PTO Report

Mrs. Zaldo gave the PTO report.

Public Comment

None

Minutes

Motion by Lestinsky, seconded by Cafasso to accept the May 14, 2025 Regular Meeting Minutes as presented. *The motion carries 5 yes (Amato, Bradford, Cafasso, Garcia, Lestinsky), 4 absent (Lane, Leary, Maher, Uscilla)*

Committee Reports

Facilities:

Mrs. Byrd provided an update on the North Stair project.

Finance:

Motion by Lestinsky seconded by Amato to accept the report of expenditures and adjustments to the 2024-2025 Operating Budget through May 31, 2025. *The motion carries 5 yes (Amato, Bradford, Cafasso, Garcia, Lestinsky), 4 absent (Lane, Leary, Maher, Uscilla)*

Unfinished Business

Motion by Lestinsky seconded by Cafasso to approve the Federal mandates to Policies 4000.1, 5145.44, 0523, and 0112 (Version Two). *The motion carries 5 yes (Amato, Bradford, Cafasso, Garcia, Lestinsky), 4 absent (Lane, Leary, Maher, Uscilla)*

Motion by Amato seconded by Lestinsky to approve the State mandated new Policies 5131.9111 and 5144.12. *The motion carries 5 yes (Amato, Bradford, Cafasso, Garcia, Lestinsky), 4 absent (Lane, Leary, Maher, Uscilla)*

Motion by Lestinsky seconded by Amato to approve the recommended revisions to Policy 1411 (Version Two). *The motion carries 5 yes (Amato, Bradford, Cafasso, Garcia, Lestinsky), 4 absent (Lane, Leary, Maher, Uscilla)*

Motion by Cafasso seconded by Lestinsky to approve no revisions to Policies 1340, 1412, 1416, and 1500. *The motion carries 5 yes (Amato, Bradford, Cafasso, Garcia, Lestinsky), 4 absent (Lane, Leary, Maher, Uscilla)*

New Business

None

Superintendent Report

Mrs. Byrd reported that on May 31, 2025, PK-6 enrollment was 437 students.

Mrs. Byrd provided a personnel update.

Director Report

Ms. Kiesel reported on Curriculum and Special Services.

Principal Report

Mr. Reed-Swale reported on BCS's recent and upcoming events.

Chairman Report

Mr. Garcia suggested canceling the July 9, 2025 BOE meeting and the Board members agreed.

Communications

Ramya Suriyanarayananarajan, 51 Humiston Drive, Bethany, shared gratitude to Ms. Wolcott, Mrs. Byrd, and the Board of Education for supporting her children as they represented the school at the Henry Ford Invention Convention U.S. Nationals.

Public Comment

None

Executive Session

Motion by Lestinsky, seconded by Cafasso to enter into Executive Session to discuss the Superintendent's Evaluation, Contract, and Salary, and Kai Byrd is invited to attend. *The motion carries 5 yes (Amato, Bradford, Cafasso, Garcia, Lestinsky), 4 absent (Lane, Leary, Maher, Uscilla).*

Present

Angelo Amato
Susan Bradford
Joseph Cafasso
John Paul Garcia
Shannon Lane, arrived at 7:22 p.m.
Amy Lestinsky

Other

Kai Byrd

Absent

Caroline Leary
EJ Maher
Shawn Uscilla

Reconvene Moved from Executive Session and the regular meeting reconvened at 7:48 p.m.

Motion by Amato, seconded by Lestinsky, that the Board of Education approve the Superintendent's 2025-2026 salary agreement to include a contract extension to 2028, a 4% base salary increase, and 12.5 carryover vacation days. *The motion carries 6 yes (Amato, Bradford, Cafasso, Garcia, Lane, Lestinsky), 3 absent (Leary, Maher, Uscilla).*

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 7:49 p.m.

Visitors in Attendance

In Person: 1

On Livestream: 4

Donna Ricciardi

Donna Ricciardi
Recording Secretary

APPROVED