

**BETHANY BOARD OF EDUCATION
Regular Meeting Minutes
BCS Learning Commons
August 13, 2025**

Present

Angelo Amato
Susan Bradford
Joseph Cafasso
Shannon Lane
Caroline Leary
Shawn Uscilla, left at 6:59 p.m.

Administration

Kai Byrd
Cheryl Kiesel
Tom Reed-Swale

Absent

John Paul Garcia
Amy Lestinsky
EJ Maher

Call to Order

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

PTO Report

None

Public Comment

None

Amendment to Agenda

Motion by Amato, seconded by Cafasso to amend the agenda to include the approval of the June 11, 2025 meeting minutes. *The motion carries 6 yes (Amato, Bradford, Cafasso, Lane, Leary, Uscilla), 3 absent (Garcia, Lestinsky, Maher)*

Minutes

Motion by Bradford, seconded by Cafasso to accept the June 11, 2025 Regular Meeting Minutes as presented. *The motion carries 4 yes (Amato, Bradford, Cafasso, Leary), 2 abstain (Lane, Uscilla) 3 absent (Garcia, Lestinsky, Maher)*

Committee Reports

Facilities:

Mr. Uscilla provided updates on both the North Stair Project and the Septic project.

Policy:

Mrs. Bradford stated that the committee met on August 12, 2025 and will present 10 policies for review at the next BOE meeting.

Unfinished Business

None

New Business

Motion by Uscilla, seconded by Bradford to approve the school lunch price increase from \$3.30 to \$3.50 for the 2025-2026 school year. *The motion carries 6 yes (Amato, Bradford, Cafasso, Lane, Leary, Uscilla), 3 absent (Garcia, Lestinsky, Maher)*

Superintendent Report

Mrs. Byrd reported that as of Wednesday, August 13, 2025, PK-6 enrollment was 427 students, and reminded the Board members that there is still time for this number to change before the first day of school.

Mrs. Byrd shared a personnel update, welcoming new staff members and stating that the District is fully staffed.

Mrs. Byrd provided an update on the District's next Strategic Plan. She stated the goals of the plan and requested the participation of at least two BOE members. It is the intention to have a completed plan to the BOE in March 2026.

Director Report

Ms. Kiesel reported on Professional Development, Curriculum, and Special Services.

Principal Report

Mr. Reed-Swale provided a back to school report.

Chairman Report

None

Communications

None

Public Comment

None

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 7:14 p.m.

Visitors in Attendance

On Zoom Meeting: 1

Donna Ricciardi
Recording Secretary