

**BETHANY BOARD OF EDUCATION
Regular Meeting Minutes
BOE Meeting Room and via Zoom
October 8, 2025**

Present

Angelo Amato
Susan Bradford
Joseph Cafasso
John Paul Garcia
Shannon Lane
Caroline Leary
Amy Lestinsky
EJ Maher

Administration

Kai Byrd
Cheryl Kiesel
Tom Reed-Swale

Absent

Shawn Uscilla

Call to Order

Mr. Garcia called the meeting to order at 6.30 p.m.

PTO Report

None

Public Comment

None

Minutes

Motion by Cafasso, seconded by Leary to accept the September 10, 2025 Regular Meeting Minutes as presented. *The motion carries 6 yes (Bradford, Cafasso, Garcia, Lane, Leary, Lestinsky), 2 abstain (Amato, Maher), 1 absent (Uscilla).*

Committee Reports

Curriculum:

The committee met on October 1, 2025. Angelo Amato shared a Curriculum & Professional Learning update.

Finance:

Motion by Leary, seconded by Amato to accept the report of expenditures and adjustments to the 2025-2026 Operating Budget through September 30, 2025. *The motion carries 8 yes (Amato, Bradford, Cafasso, Garcia, Lane, Leary, Lestinsky, Maher), 1 absent (Uscilla).*

Policy:

The committee met on October 7, 2025. Susan Bradford shared the policies that will be brought to the Board for a first read at the November meeting.

Unfinished Business

Motion by Lestinsky, seconded by Leary to approve the recommended revisions to Policies 1600, 2100, 2130, 2141, 2400, 3120, 3150, 3231, and 3520.13 *The motion carries 8 yes (Amato, Bradford, Cafasso, Garcia, Lane, Leary, Lestinsky, Maher), 1 absent (Uscilla).*

Motion by Lestinsky, seconded by Leary to approve the no revision to Policy 3320 *The motion carries 8 yes (Amato, Bradford, Cafasso, Garcia, Lane, Leary, Lestinsky, Maher), 1 absent (Uscilla).*

New Business

None

Superintendent Report

Mrs. Byrd reported that on September 30, 2025, PK-6 enrollment was 431 students.

Mrs. Byrd provided a personnel update.

Mrs. Byrd shared an update on the Strategic Planning Committee.

Mrs. Byrd reminded the community about supports available to Bethany families such as the BCS Care Closet, Ms. Laskin, and Ms. Nathman.

Mrs. Byrd shared that the BOE Fall Open Forum will be held on November 12, 2025, after the BOE meeting.

Director Report

Ms. Kiesel reported on Curriculum and Special Services.

Principal Report

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

Chairman Report

Mr. Garcia reported that the stair project is now complete with the railings being installed.

Mr. Garcia thanked Shawn Uscilla, Mrs. Byrd, the contractor, and the architect for their work on the project.

Communications

None

Public Comment

None

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 7:04 p.m.

Visitors in Attendance

In Person: 2

On Zoom: 5



Donna Ricciardi
Recording Secretary
Approved 11/12/25