



Bensenville Elementary School District 2

Board of Education Special Meeting
Minutes – January 21, 2026

President James Stoltman 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	Member	X	
Victoria Gonzalez	Secretary	X	
Robert Laudadio	Member	X	
Milton Mercado, Jr.	Member	X	
Anita Miller	Vice-President	X	
Maria Cristina Reyes	Member		X
James Stoltman	President	X	
Administration			
Dr. Katie McCluskey	Superintendent	X	
Mr. Tim Keeley	C.S.B.O	X	
Ms. Lydia Ryan	Assistant Superintendent for Teaching & Learning	X	
Mr. Dustin Berman	Assistant Superintendent for Student Services	X	
Other Staff			
Cindy Snyder	Administrative Asst. to the Superintendent & Clerk of the Board	X	
Tania Gomez	Community Relations Coordinator	X	

Others Present: Dr. Christy Poli, Principal Early Education Program; Themistocles Franhos from AHEPA; Nick Georgopoulos BMS teacher; Dianne Iwema, Union Co-President

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

Public Comment - None

Celebrations

- Congratulations to Themistocles Franhos and Nick Georgopoulos from AHEPA - Chicago Lakeshore Chapter 2025 on receiving the Friends of Education Award! Their continued work providing backpack supplies makes a meaningful difference for BSD2 families each year. We are grateful for their dedication and support of our students and community.
- Congratulations to our Principal of the Early Learning Center, Christy Poli, on earning her Ed.D. from National Louis University!

Board Committee Reports

- A. Announcements** – none

Administrative Reports

- A. Announcements** – dDr. McCluskey reviewed the criteria for calling a remote learning day due to extreme cold. Districts follow guidance from the National Weather Service, and the threshold for remote learning is the issuance of an extreme weather warning. Dr. McCluskey noted that this could be a possibility for

Friday.

- B. **FOIA** – Mr. Keeley reported that there were [4 FOIAs - see attached.](#)
- C. **Mid-Year Financial Report** - Tim Keeley, BSD2’s Chief School Business Official, presented the Mid-Year Financial Report, which reflects that the District’s revenues and expenses are on-budget. The District is in a positive financial position, with a projected year-end fund balance in line with the prior fiscal year thanks to a balanced budget.
- D. **Financial Forecast (5-Year Plan)** - Tim Keeley, BSD2’s Chief School Business Official, presented the Financial Forecast. Bensenville School District 2 has maintained annual operating surpluses since 2003, excluding construction costs. These surpluses have helped fund about \$39 million in building projects since 2012, including the 2024 BMS renovations.

The forecast shows moderate deficit spending in the next two fiscal years, but an overall structurally-sound financial outlook. The Administration and Board of Education will continue to seek efficient operations to ensure the continued delivery of high-quality education to our students.

Consent Items

A. **Approval of Minutes**

- 1. Regular Board of Education Meeting – December 17, 2025
- 2. Regular Board of Education Meeting – December 17, 2025– closed session

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

B. **Approval of Financial Reports**

- 1. **Bills December 2025**
 - a) Accounts Payable
 - b) Imprest Checks
 - c) Advanced Checks
 - d) Credit Card Payments
- 2. **Financial Statements as of December 31, 2025**
- 3. **Quarterly Investment Report** - Tim Keeley, BSD2’s Chief School Business Official, presented the Quarterly Investment report with Investments as of December 31, 2026 (US\$).

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

C. **Personnel**

I. **Resignation of Classified Staff**

Recommendation: No action by the Board of Education is necessary for the following classified staff member resignations:

- 1. Eliana Barrera, Special Education Paraprofessional, Blackhawk Middle School
- 2. Jayden Matinez Lamando, Special Education Paraprofessional, Tioga Elementary School

II. **Ratification of Employment – Classified Staff**

Recommendation: That the Board of Education ratifies the employment of the following classified staff:

- 1. Sandra Joshua Bonivel, Special Education Paraprofessional, Johnson Elementary School, effective January 6, 2026
- 2. Stephanie Rosas, Pre-K Paraprofessional, Tioga Elementary School, effective January 12, 2026

III. Approval of Long-Term Substitute

Recommendation: That the Board of Education ratifies the employment of the following long-term substitute:

1. Nathaniel Enriquez, PE Long Term Substitute Teacher at Tioga Elementary School, effective January 5, 2026 through January 30, 2026.

D. Gift Acceptance

Recommendation: That the Board of Education accept the unrestricted donation from Tioga Post 2149 V.F.W. for \$500.00.

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

Roll Call Vote:

Aye: Miller, Gonzalez, Dye, Laudadio, Mercado, Stoltman

Nay: None

Absent: Reyes

Motion Carried.

Closed Session

At 6:56 p.m. a motion was made by Mrs. Dye and seconded by Ms. Gonzalez that the Board of Education go into Closed Session for the purpose of:

- A. **Negotiations** - *Collective negotiating matters between the public body and its employees or their representatives, or deliberations concerning salary schedules for one or more classes of employees. 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(2).*

Roll Call Vote:

Aye: Dye, Gonzalez, Laudadio, Mercado, Miller, Stoltman

Nay: None

Absent: Reyes

Motion Carried.

At 7:05 p.m. a motion was made by Mrs. Dye and seconded by Mrs. Gonzalez that the Board of Education adjourn from Closed Session. Upon voice vote, all board members present voted aye. Motion carried.

Conference/Action Items

- A. **Approval of New Multi-year Collective Bargaining Agreement between Bensenville Education Association and the Board of Education Bensenville School District #2** – Dr. McCluskey reported that the Bensenville Education Association (BEA) represents the District’s teaching staff. The District’s contract with BEA expires at the end of summer 2027. Bargaining teams from BEA and the District reached a tentative agreement in December.

The new contract becomes effective if both the Board and the BEA membership ratify it. BEA’s members ratified the agreement in voting held on January 14, 2026.

Dr. McCluskey reported that many revisions were made to the working condition sections of the contract. Those were shown in the marked version of the contract.

Dr. McCluskey reported that the new contract is for four years, beginning 2026-2027 through the 2029-2030 school year.

A motion was made by Mrs. Miller and seconded by Mrs. Dye that the Board of Education approve the new multi-year collective bargaining Agreement between Bensenville Education Association and the Board of Education, Bensenville School District #2.

Roll Call Vote:

Aye: Miller, Dye, Gonzalez, Laudadio, Mercado, Stoltman

Nay: None

Absent: Reyes

Motion Carried.

- B. Review of 2026-2027 School Year Calendar Proposal** – Dr. McCluskey reported that the Illinois School Code requires that the Board of Education approve the annual school calendar by May of each year.

Dr. McCluskey also reported that the administration shares draft calendars with BEA co-presidents to solicit comments. The calendar for Fenton High School was compared to the District calendar to create alignment.

Board members reviewed the key dates from the draft calendar for 2026-2027.

Recommendation: Review only at this time.

- C. 2nd Reading & Adoption of Policy Revisions** – Mr. Keeley reported that at the December 17, 2025 meeting the Board reviewed the recommended revisions of the following policies.

Mr. Keeley reported that no further changes have been made to the proposed policy revisions and the administration recommends the adoption of the revised policies as presented.

- 2:150, Committees
- 4:150, Facility Management & Building Programs
- 7:130, Student Rights and Responsibilities
- 7:190, Student Behavior
- 7:250, Student Support Services

A motion was made by Mr. Laudadio and seconded by Mrs. Miller that the Board of Education adopt the above revised policies as presented for 2nd Reading.

Roll Call Vote:

Aye: Laudadio, Miller, Dye, Gonzalez, Mercado, Stoltman

Nay: None

Absent: Reyes

Motion Carried.

- D. 1st Reading Policy Revisions** – Mr. Keeley reported that these policies are being recommended for reasons stated below:

<u>2:120, Board Member Development</u>	The policy and footnotes are updated for continuous improvement. The footnotes are also updated in response to 105 ILCS 5/24-16.5, amended by P.A. 104-20, making student growth an optional, rather than required, component of teacher evaluations.
<u>4:30, Revenue and Investments</u>	The policy and footnotes are updated in response to the Public Funds Investment Act, 30 ILCS 235/8, amended by P.A. 104-92, eff. 1-1-26, addressing deposit requirements for financial institutions subject to the Ill. Community Reinvestment Act. Continuous improvement updates are also made to the footnotes.
<u>5:100, Staff Development Program</u>	The policy and footnotes are updated in response to: 1. 105 ILCS 5/27-240, added by P.A. 104-391, replacing the citation to 105 ILCS 110/3.10, repealed by P.A. 104-391; and 2. 105 ILCS 5/27-115, renumbered by P.A. 104-391. The footnotes are also updated in response to: 1. 105 ILCS 5/27-105, renumbered by P.A. 104-391; 2. IDHR’s <i>Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs) about Racism-Free Schools Training</i> ; and 3. Continuous improvement.
<u>5:220, Substitute Teachers</u>	The Legal References and footnotes are updated. The Legal References are updated in response to 105 ILCS 128/22, added by P.A. 104-198, eff. 1-1- 26, requiring districts to provide all substitute personnel with: (1) training on school evacuation drills and law enforcement lockdown drills, and (2) support that includes, at a minimum, the information packet given to employees with district-approved materials outlining evacuation and lockdown procedures. Maps indicating all school exits must also be prominently displayed in every classroom. The footnotes are updated in response to 105 ILCS 5/21B-20(2) (E), amended by P.A. 103-617, allowing an individual who holds a valid career and technical educator endorsement on an Educator License with Stipulations but who does not hold a bachelor’s degree to substitute teach in career and technical education classrooms, and for continuous improvement.
<u>6:40, Curriculum Development</u>	The policy, Legal References, Cross References, and footnotes are updated for continuous improvement. Footnote 1 is also updated in response to <u>Mahmoud v. Taylor</u> , 145 S. Ct. 2332 (2025), holding that classroom instruction will burden parents’ religious free exercise rights if it requires their children to submit to instruction “that poses ‘a very real threat of undermining’ the religious beliefs and practices that the parents wish to instill.”
<u>6:280, Grading and Promotion</u>	The policy is unchanged. The footnotes are updated in response to 105 ILCS 5/10-20.9a, amended by P.A. 104-391, deleting the now-expired provision that prohibited withholding a student’s grades, transcripts, or diploma because of an unpaid balance on the student’s school account.

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

E. Employment of Auditing Firm – Mr. Keeley reported that at the May 2023 Regular Meeting, the Board of Education awarded a contract for Audit Services to Lauterbach & Amen. The contract set the rates for the first three years of the contractual relationship, leaving future years to negotiation and mutual agreement on future extensions.

Mr. Keeley reported that the district is pleased with the performance of the team from Lauterbach & Amen over the past three audits and recommends that the District continue with the firm for the 2026-2027 Fiscal Year audit work. Lauterbach & Amen is proposing a modest increase of approximately 3% to their fees over the prior year's work.

A motion was made by Mr. Laudadio and seconded by Mr. Mercado that the Board of Education approve the Fiscal Year 2026-2027 Audit Engagement with Lauterbach & Amen as presented.

Roll Call Vote:

Aye: Laudadio, Mercado, Dye, Gonzalez, Miller, Stoltman

Nay: None

Absent: Reyes

Motion Carried.

New Business

- Dr. McCluskey asked if any Board members would like to attend the IASB DuPage Division Meeting on February 3, 2026 from 5:30-8:00 p.m. at Willowbrook High School – DuPage HSD 88. Dr. Tony Sanders, State Superintendent of Education, will provide key updates on ISBE's strategic priorities for student success — including the ongoing redesign of our accountability system, the expansion of our school improvement support structure, and the multiple methods we're using to address the educator shortage across Illinois.

Adjournment

At 7:16 p.m. a motion was made by Mrs. Dye and seconded by Mr. Gonzalez that the Board of Education adjourn the meeting. Upon voice vote, all board members present voted aye. Motion carried.

With no further business appearing, Mr. Stoltman adjourned the meeting at 7:16 p.m.

President

Secretary