

BELFAST CENTRAL SCHOOL
BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING MINUTES
May 12, 2026

School Board Members Present: Josie Preston, President, Randa Harrington, Vice President, Becky Backer, Jonathan Barney, Russell Calanni, Marc Smithers,

Absent: Ashley Moore, Emerson Weaver, Ex-Officio Student BOE Member

District Personnel: Wendy Butler Ed. D, Superintendent, Rick Bull, 5-12 Principal, Chelsey Aylor, PK-4 Principal, Keegan Harrington, Business Manager, Gina Larrabee, District Clerk

Guests: Joshua Hazelton, teacher. Community member Brent Kelley

At 6:00 p.m. the meeting was called to order by Josie Preston, President.

Financial Keegan Harrington, Business Manager, presented Budget Status and Revenue Status Reports, March Warrants and Claims Audit Reports, and March's Treasurer's Reports. Mr. Harrington noted the usual monthly reports are in good order

Leadership Reports Principal Rick Bull gave an update on the graduating class of 2026. Twenty-six graduates will receive diplomas on June 26 at 7:00pm in the auditorium of Belfast Central School. Mr. Bull spoke about the types of diplomas that will be given and the future plans of graduating students.
Principal Chelsey Aylor shared information about New York State 3-8 testing. She spoke about second graders who won the First in Math Tournament hosted by NYS earning them a bid for the state competition, and third quarter elementary Resilience Awards. Mrs. Aylor explained "current research shows that excessive individual screen use in early childhood can interfere with the development of foundational skills best supported through hands-on play-based, and social learning". Individual iPads will no longer be provided to Pre-K and Kindergarten classrooms. iPads will be available in "STEAM classrooms and for technology related standards" and available for emergency remote learning if needed.
Dr. Wendy Butler spoke with the Board about NYSPHSAA's (New York State Public High School Athletic Association) program "Schools Without Boundaries" program and policies. She will continue to monitor these and keep the Board informed. Dr. Butler continues to pursue grant options and spoke about *NYSERDA* and *Innovative Approaches to Literacy* as opportunities.

Consent Agenda Motion by Jonathan Barney, seconded by Marc Smithers, adopted the following Consent Agenda Items as recommended by the superintendent:

- Approved the minutes of the April 21, 2026, meeting.
- Approved the Treasurer's reports dated March 2026.
- Approved the CSE/ CPSE/ 504 committee recommendations as presented.
- Approved and accepted cash donations to support student participation in the Vex Worlds Tournament.
- Approved additional calendar changes to make May 26 and June 25, 2026, days off from school for unused snow days.

Carried 6-0

Board Actions
ROC Data Privacy
Agreement

Motion by Randa Harrington, seconded by Marc Smither, to authorize the ROC to negotiate Data Privacy Agreements (DPAs) with third-party contractors on behalf of Belfast Central School, as recommended by the superintendent.

WHEREAS, four (4) BOCES (Onondaga-Cortland-Madison BOCES, Albany-Schoharie-Schenectady-Saratoga BOCES, Madison-Oneida BOCES and Broome-Tioga BOCES) have collaborated and entered into an Article 5 General Municipal Law intermunicipal arrangement for the purpose of improving vendor management and data security and privacy practices for school districts and/or BOCES statewide known as the RIC ONE Risk Operations Center (the “ROC”);

WHEREAS, the Board of Education of the Belfast Central School District, through its affiliation with a locally based Regional Information Center, participates with the ROC and desires, for the 2026-2027 fiscal year, to authorize the ROC and its attorneys to negotiate Data Privacy Agreements and related exhibits (DPAs) with vendors and third-party contractors that include the requirements of, and compliance with, New York State Education Law Section 2-d and Part 121 Regulations (collectively, “Ed Law 2d”) related to student personally identifiable information (PII) and certain Teacher and Principal APPR data;”

WHEREAS, the ROC also partners with NYSED, the Access4Learning Student Data Privacy Consortium (SDPC) and The Education Cooperative (TEC), to negotiate and approve Ed Law 2-d compliant DPAs;

WHEREAS, the DPAs are presented to school districts and/or BOCES for final execution and do not require the expenditure of funds beyond those budgeted;

BE IT RESOLVED, the Belfast CSD Board of Education authorizes the use of DPAs negotiated by the RIC ROC and its attorneys, consistent with its needs and the needs of its students; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Belfast CSD reserves to itself the right to make determinations regarding the use of such DPAs and the software and/or technology resources to which they relate and to consult with its own legal counsel to review any specific issues or concerns before executing any DPA.

Carried 6-0

PERSONNEL

Appointments

Motion by Becky Backer, seconded by Randa Harrington, approved the following personnel motions, as recommended by the Superintendent:

Appointed the following BCS staff members to the identified extracurricular positions for the 2026-27 school year:

Position	Staff Member(s)
• Lego League Coach (3)	Josh Hazelton, Deb Borden, Beth Hazelton
• Drama Club	Jessica Romance, Rebekah Brennan
• MS Student Council Advisor (2)	Danielle Prosser, Shelby Tucker

Appointed Amy Brundage, who holds permanent NYS Certificates permitting her to teach Biology (7-12) and General Science (7-1), to the position of MS/HS Science Teacher in the science education tenure area for a probationary period of three years, to commence August 31, 2026, and to end August 31, 2029. Ms. Brundage’s salary for the 26-27 school year will be at Step Y of the BTA negotiated contract plus graduate credit hours.

Appointed Chelsey Aylor, who has a professional certification as a School District Leader and has completed a successful three-year probationary appointment to the tenured position of PK-4 Principal/ Director of Curriculum, in the administrative tenure area commencing August 10, 2026.

Appointed Rebekah Brennan, who has an initial certificate as a Music Teacher and has completed a successful four-year probationary appointment to the tenured position of Music Teacher, in the music education tenure area, commencing August 31, 2026.

Appointed Sadie Hulin, who has an initial certificate as a Childhood Education Teacher and has completed a successful four-year probationary appointment to the tenured position of Elementary Teacher, in the elementary education tenure area, commencing August 31, 2026.

Appointed Jessica Weaver, who has an initial certificate as a Childhood Education Teacher and has completed a successful three-year probationary appointment to the tenured position of Elementary Teacher, in the elementary education tenure area, commencing August 31, 2026.

Permanently appointed Dylan Worthington as a teacher aide after completing a one-year probationary period, effective May 14, 2026.

Appointed the following non-instructional substitutes for the 25-26 school year:

- Rick Bull (bus driver)
- Avery Grusendorf (nurse)

Approved the following instructional subs for 25-26:

- Luke Marks (certified)

Approved the following athletic appointments for the 25-26 school year:

- Duane Powers- Varsity Softball Coach (effective May 6, 2026)
- Tom Yackeren- Volunteer Assistant Varsity Softball Coach (effective May 6, 2026)

Approved a Juul agreement to extend Bruce Harrington's probationary appointment by one year.

Approved a leave of absence and use of FMLA for Sharlene Rivera Esteva beginning May 11, 2026, for two to six weeks (exact end date will be submitted when known).

Carried 6-0

Resignations Motion by Russ Calanni, seconded by Jonathan Barney, approved the following personnel resignation motions, as recommended by the Superintendent.

Accepted Brooke Bradt's resignation as the Varsity Softball Coach effective May 6, 2026.

Carried 6-0

Executive Session Motion by Randa Harrington, seconded by Jonathan Barney, moved the Board into executive session at 6:12pm to discuss personnel or legal matters for purposes specified in the open meeting law. Wendy Butler was invited by the Board.

Carried 6-0

Motion by Becky Backer, seconded by Marc Smithers, moved the Board out of executive session at 6:25pm to discuss specific student and legal matters for purposes specified in the open meeting law.

Carried 6-0

ADJOURNMENT Motion by Becky Backer, seconded by Randa Harrington, adjourned the meeting at 6:26pm.

Carried 6-0

Respectfully Submitted,



District Clerk