Bensenville Elementary School District 2
Board of Education Regular Meeting
Minutes – May 20, 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:

Paula Buerger, FLES Teacher - Tioga, Tereon Teague, 3rd Grade Classroom Teacher – Tioga
Jay Pasternak – Community member

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

Public Comments - none

Celebrations

- Moica Anaya was recently honored at the DuPage IASA Recognition Breakfast on April 15, an annual event celebrating individuals who make a meaningful impact in their schools and communities across DuPage County. Through her dedication as an active PTO member, CARE volunteer, and member of the Strategic Planning and Foreign Language Committees, Mojca has consistently supported students, families, and schools in Bensenville School District 2. We are grateful for her lasting contributions and proud to recognize her commitment to our community.
- In May, BSD2 proudly celebrated Teacher Appreciation Month, Speech-Language Pathologist (SLP) Appreciation, and Nurses Day, recognizing the dedicated professionals who support, inspire, and care for students each day. Their commitment plays a vital role in creating a positive and successful learning environment for all students. We are so grateful for our D2 Staff.
- The Board of Education congratulated Bob on receiving the Illinois State Board of Education (ISBE) Board Leader Recognition as an Established Board Member. This achievement honors his continued dedication, leadership, and service to our students, staff, and community.

Presentations

1. **FLES Program** - Superintendent Dr. Katie McCluskey, along with the FLES teachers, presented an overview of the first year of the FLES Spanish program, including a video highlighting student progress and learning outcomes.
2. **Summer School Update** - Lydia Ryan presented a Summer School update, including information on the Jump Start and Summer of Service programs.

Board Committee Reports

A. Announcements – none

Administrative Reports

1. **Announcements** – none
2. **FOIA** – Mr. Keeley reported that there were 11 FOIA's.
3. **Enrollment Report -** Dr. McCluskey reported on enrollment in May vs enrollment in September.
4. **Property Tax Appeals Report -** Since at least 2020, the District has participated in a consortium with the Village of Bensenville, Bensenville Community Public Library, Fenton Community High School District 100,, Bensenville Park District and Bensenville Fire Protection District #2. The consortium enlists the legal services of Klein, Thorpe and Jenkins, Ltd. and shares the costs of these services. Mr. Keeley reported that no new property tax appeals have been filed or settled for the District since 2022.

Consent Items

A. Approval of Minutes

1. Regular Board of Education Meeting – April 8, 2026
2. Regular Board of Education Meeting – April 8, 2026 - Closed Session

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

B. Approval of Financial Reports

1. **Bills April 2026**
   a) Accounts Payable
   b) Imprest Checks
   c) Advanced Checks
   d) Credit Card Payments
2. **Financial Statements** as of April 30, 2026
3. **Quarterly Investment Report** - Tim Keeley, BSD2's Chief School Business Official, presented the Quarterly Investment report with Investments as of March 31, 2026. As of March 31, 2026, the portfolio's value was $31,861,665. The portfolio's yield is 3.67%, based on each instrument's original purchase price.

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

C: Personnel

I. Resignation of Certified Staff

Recommendation: No action by the Board of Education is necessary for these resignations.

1. Nicole Brodsky, Fifth Grade Teacher, Johnson School, effective June 2, 2026.
2. Jennifer Gutierrez, 3rd Grade Dual Teacher, Tioga School, effective July 23, 2026.
3. Nilda Pantaleon, 3rd Grade Dual Language Teacher, Tioga School, effective June 2, 2026.
4. Samantha Patterson, Pre-K Teacher, Tioga School, effective June 2, 2026.
5. Tiffany Riding, Pre-K Self-Contained Teacher, Tioga School, effective June 2, 2026.

II. Resignation of Classified Staff

Recommendation: No action by the Board of Education is necessary for these resignations.

1. Angela Baum, Special Education Paraprofessional, Blackhawk Middle School, effective June 2, 2026.

2. Maria Fatima Castro, Special Education Paraprofessional, Johnson School,Sandra Joshua Bonivel, Paraprofessional, Johnson School, effective April 14, 2026.
3. Cecilia Garcia Morales, Dual Language Aide, Johnson School,
4. Cathleen Piazza, Bus Driver, Bensenville School District 2, effective May 8, 2026.
5. Isabel Santoyo, Special Education Paraprofessional, Tioga School, effective April 24, 2026.

III. Ratification of Employment for 2026-2027 Administrative Staff

Recommendation: That the Board of Education approves the employment of the following certified staff members:

1. Beth Jones, Interim Student Services Coordinator, Tioga School, effective at the start of the 2026-2027 school year.
2. Maggie Hanley, Student Services Coordinator, Johnson School, effective 7/1/2026.

IV. Ratification of Employment – Classified Staff

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

1. Monserrat Cruz, PreK Paraprofessional, Tioga School, effective May 13, 2026.
2. Sandra Lira, Breakfast/Lunch/Crossing Guard, Tioga School, effective April 29, 2026.
3. Ariana Meza, Office Manager, Blackhawk Middle School, effective July 24, 2026.

V. Compensation and Positions Update – Non-Licensed Leadership Personnel

Recommendation: That the Board of Education approves the establishment of the Non-Licensed Leadership Personnel category and the standardization of compensation and benefits for applicable positions.

1. Increase of 3.5% for Katie Adduci, Tania Gomez, Tammy Hoeflinger to align with 2026-2027 administrative increases.
2. Increase of 1.75% for Mike Wood to account for less than a full year service.

VI. Employment of Summer School Support Staff

Recommendation: That the Board of Education ratifies the employment of the summer school support staff for the 2026 summer school program as listed below.

1. Maria Contreras – Paraprofessional
2. Tamara Czeszewski – Paraprofessional
3. Vicky Eltman – Paraprofessional
4. Kaerina Pineda – Paraprofessional
5. Kristina Valenzuela – Paraprofessional
6. Maggie Soto – Paraprofessional
7. Tracy Hoch – Paraprofessional
8. Evelina Ramirez – Paraprofessional
9. Riley Barnitz – Paraprofessional
10. Yanet Hernandez – Paraprofessional
11. E. Judith Chaidez – Paraprofessional
12. Jailine Gomez Mendoza – Paraprofessional
13. Hanan Ayyad – Paraprofessional
14. Adella Aviles – Paraprofessional
15. Diana Lira – Paraprofessional
16. Maria Loza – Paraprofessional
17. Yadirah Diaz – Paraprofessional

Salary & Benefits for Classified Staff

Recommendation: That the Board of Education approve the pay and benefit levels for classified staff. A standard raise of 4.5% is recommended.

VII. Salary & Benefits and Status Change for Non-BEA Certified Staff Member

Recommendation: That the Board of Education approve a 1.25% increase for Amanda Doyle for the 2026-2027 school year, which represents ¼ of the BEA contract increase and approve the transition of her employment status to a BEA position effective in the 2026-2027 contract year.

VIII. Adjustment to EAC Support Staff to Salaried (Exempt) Positions

Recommendation: That the Board of Education approve the transition of Administrative Assistant for Teaching & Learning and Payroll and Business Office Specialist positions from hourly (non-exempt) to salaried (exempt) positions, effective July 1, 2026 at an annualized salary equivalent to their current hourly rate of pay.

X. Approval of Long-Term Substitute

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

1. Erida Dalanaj Shingjini, Long-term ELA/ESL Substitute Teacher at Blackhawk Middle School, effective May 4, 2026 through June 2, 2026.
2. Ellen Forster, Long-term Special Education Resource Substitute Teacher at Tioga School, effective approximately first four weeks of the 2026-2027 School Year.
3. Rahi Patel Long-term Math Teacher at Blackhawk Middle School, effective May 4, 2026 through June 2, 2026.

D. Approve Final Calendar for 2025-2026 - On December 18, 2024, the Board of Education adopted the school calendar for the 2025-2026 school year with June 2, 2026 being the last day of student attendance, if the required number of school days had been met.

Recommendation: That the Board of Education establish June 2, 2026 as the last day of student attendance as the closing date for the 2025-26 school year.

E. Resolution Appointing School Treasurer - State law permits the Treasurer to be elected from among the members of the Board or to be appointed if not a member. The current Treasurer's term expires in July. The District is required to have a Treasurer. Mr. Tim Keeley has served as Treasurer since July 2025. A Treasurer should be appointed for a new one-year term to begin on May 20, 2026.

Recommendation: That the Board of Education adopt a resolution appointing, Tim Keeley, School Treasurer to take effect May 20, 2026.

F. Treasurer's Bond - Mr. Keeley is the District's Treasurer and the legal custodian of the District's cash. School Code requires the District to purchase a surety bond to cover the Treasurer's faithful discharge of this custody. The bond amount must be at least 10% of the highest amount of cash held during the year. School Code also requires the Board to approve the bond. A copy is attached to the resolution. The Bond follows the prescribed form.

The recommended bond amount is $5,200,000 million. This amount is 10% of the forecasted highest cash balance for 2026-27, $52 million. That forecast includes a cushion of $2 million, which has been the standard for BSD2 for this calculation.

Recommendation: That the Board adopt the attached resolution approving the Treasurer's bond in the amount of $5,200,000.

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

Roll Call Vote:
Aye: Dye, Laudadio, Gonzalez, Reyes, Stoltman
Nay: None
Absent: Mercado, Miller,
Motion Carried.

Conference/Action Items

A. Appointment of NDSEC Representatives - Mr. Stoltman appointed the following as the NDSEC Representative and alternate:

- Maria Cristina Reyes as Representative
- Victoria Gonzalez as an Alternate

B. Approve Consolidated District Plan - Dr. McCluskey reported that the Consolidated District Plan allows grantees to answer one set of planning questions to meet requirements for all federal formula grants. (Formula grant programs are noncompetitive awards based on a predetermined formula. These programs are sometimes referred to as state-administered programs; ENTITLEMENTS. US Ed obligates the funds based on the formula.)

Dr. McCluskey also reported that the Consolidated District Plan requires District Board approval. The exception is that the district doesn't need its reapproval by the board every year if no changes are made to the plan.

District 2's FY27 Consolidated District Plan strategically aligns federal, state, and local resources to improve academic achievement, close subgroup performance gaps, and address chronic absenteeism. Grounded in a comprehensive needs assessment and districtwide data analysis, the plan prioritizes literacy and math proficiency—particularly for English Learners and students with disabilities—through implementation of high-quality curriculum, targeted interventions, professional development, and multi-tiered systems of support. A key focus includes supporting the language development of our Multilingual Learners. The plan also strengthens literacy, math, and middle school science implementation of tier one curricular resources, co-teaching models, bilingual education, and social-emotional learning to ensure all students are supported in reaching grade-level expectations.

A motion was made by Ms. Dye and seconded by Mrs. Gonzalez that the Board approves the 2026-2027 Consolidated District Plan as presented. Upon voice vote, all board members present voted aye. Motion carried.

C. Intergovernmental Agreement Concerning Student Record Information - Dr. McCluskey reported that the Administration recommends approval of an Intergovernmental Agreement between the Elementary School District and the High School District regarding the voluntary sharing of student information to support students transitioning between the districts.

The Agreement applies to students who reside within the districts' attendance boundaries and whose parent or guardian has indicated in writing that the student intends to enroll or has enrolled in the High School.

The purpose of the Agreement is to support continuity in educational programming and student services by allowing the districts to share relevant student information similar to the manner in which information is shared within a unit school district. Information that may be shared includes:

- Academic progress and educational needs;
- Special education and Section 504 information;
- Significant disciplinary incidents or behavioral concerns; and
- Social-emotional needs and supports.

The Agreement also contains provisions intended to protect student privacy and comply with state and federal law, including limitations on disclosure, restrictions on access to information, and requirements regarding record retention and destruction.

Dr. McCluskey reported that the Administration believes the Agreement will support students' successful transition to the High School by improving communication and coordination between the districts.

The Agreement limits the sharing of information to matters relevant to a student's educational needs and permits access only to school officials with a legitimate educational or administrative interest. The Agreement also prohibits the disclosure of privileged or confidential communications and requires both districts to take reasonable measures to protect student information from unauthorized disclosure.

A motion was made by Mrs. Reyes and seconded by Mrs. Gonzalez that the Board of Education approve the Intergovernmental Agreement Concerning Student Record Information as presented.

Roll Call Vote:
Aye: Reyes, Gonzalez, Dye, Laudadio, Stoltman
Nay: None
Absent: Mercado, Miller,
Motion Carried.

D. Authorize Administration to Execute Electrical Contract - Mr. Keeley reported that the Bensenville School District 2's current electricity agreement expires in October 2026. Contracting for this utility provides stability for planning and

budgeting for the District. Contracting is typically done between one and five years, and multiple product types that "fix" various portions of the gas rate are available to the District.

The energy market remains unstable and volatile, particularly with ongoing international conflict and increasing energy demands domestically from data centers and the proliferation in AI, creating significant upside risk in future years related to energy costs.
The District has engaged the services of Nania Energy Advisors to act as an energy consultant for the procurement of electricity. Similar to how other energy partners have worked with the District, fees for Nania Energy's services are included in the quotes received from suppliers, and the District will not incur any additional costs or fees directly.

Nania Energy Advisors completed a request for electric supply rates for multiple product types. The District Administration, with the assistance of Nania Energy, evaluated the results and considered potential risks going forward. As energy markets remain volatile and the demand for energy increases at levels not seen since the Industrial Revolution, establishing long-term cost stability and potential cost avoidance is critical. Accepting a longer-term agreement and fixing the majority of electricity costs while passing through the monthly costs of capacity and transmission, allows both long-term budget stability, while leaving an opportunity for additional decreased costs in the future as efficiency projects are completed.

Due to the daily fluctuations in pricing, we are requesting that the Board of Education provide administrative authority to enter into a purchase agreement for electricity, subject to a set of parameters, by approving the recommended action below:

A motion was made by Ms. Dye and seconded by Mrs. Reyes that the Board of Education authorize District Administration to approve a contract for the procurement of electricity for up to 100% of fixed volumes on a fixed energy, pass-through capacity and transmission product for a term not to exceed 60 months.

Roll Call Vote:
Aye: Dye, Reyes, Gonzalez,Laudadio, Stoltman
Nay: None
Absent: Mercado, Miller,
Motion Carried.

E. Superintendent Compensation – Vacation Days - Mr. Stoltman reported that outlined in the Superintendent contract, the Board currently allows for payment of up to ten unused vacation days annually. During the current contract year, significant administrative transitions occurred with the onboarding of four new district leadership positions: Assistant Superintendent, CSBO, Technology Director, and Marketing and Communications Officer.

Given the importance of establishing strong working relationships, supporting onboarding efforts, and ensuring continuity in district leadership, the Superintendent prioritized maintaining a daily on-site presence throughout the year. As a result, additional vacation days were intentionally forfeited in order to support district operations, collaboration, and long-term organizational success.
Mr. Stoltman reported that the Superintendent is requesting consideration for the payout of an additional five unused vacation days this year, for a total payout of fifteen days.

This request is intended to be non-precedent setting and reflective of the unique leadership circumstances experienced during the current year. Approval of this request would not establish an ongoing practice or modify existing contractual language. Any similar requests in future years would continue to require separate Board consideration and approval.

A motion was made by Mr. Laudadio and seconded by Mrs. Reyes that the Board of Education approve the Superintendent's forfeiture of five additional vacation days to be utilized for work responsibilities during the current 2025-26 contract year and authorize payment for those days, resulting in a total payout of fifteen unused vacation days.

Roll Call Vote:
Aye: Laudadio, Reyes, Dye, Gonzalez, Stoltman

Nay: **None**
Absent: **Mercado, Miller,**
Motion Carried.

F. Teacher Dismissal/Resignation – deferred until after closed session.

New Business - none

Closed Session
At 7:06 p.m. a motion was made by Ms. Dye and seconded by Mrs. Reyes that the Board of Education go into Closed Session for the purpose of: Personnel - *The appointment, employment, compensation, discipline, performance, or dismissal of specific employees of the public body. 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(1).* **AND Student disciplinary cases**. 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(9).

Roll Call Vote:
Aye: **Dye, Reyes, Gonzalez, Miller, Stoltman**
Nay: **None**
Absent: **Laudadio, Mercado,**
Motion Carried.

At 7:34 p.m. a motion was made by Mrs. Reyes and seconded by Ms. Dye that the Board of Education adjourn from Closed Session. Upon voice vote, all board members present voted aye. Motion carried.

Conference/Action Item

F. Teacher Dismissal/Resignation – Dr. McCluskey presented two resignation agreements for approval.

A motion was made by Mrs. Gonzalez and seconded by Mrs. Reyes that the Board of Education approve the Resignation Agreement for James Robinette.

Roll Call Vote:
Aye: **Gonzalez, Reyes, Dye, Laudadio, Stoltman**
Nay: **None**
Absent: **Mercado, Miller,**
Motion Carried.

A motion was made by Mrs. Reyes and seconded by Mrs. Gonzalez that the Board of Education approve the Resignation Agreement for Megan Arado.

Roll Call Vote:
Aye: **Reyes, Gonzalez, Dye, Laudadio, Stoltman**
Nay: **None**
Absent: **Mercado, Miller,**
Motion Carried.

Adjournment
At 7:35 p.m. a motion was made by Ms. Dye and seconded by Mrs. 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 7:35 p.m.

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President

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Secretary