



Bensenville Elementary School District 2

Board of Education Regular Meeting

Minutes – August 19, 2026

Vice President Anita Miller 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: Tereon Teague – Summer of Service Leader, Shyla Kinhal – Curriculum Director & Summer School Principal, Pam Laguna, Food Service Director - Sodexo

Pledge of Allegiance – Mrs. Miller led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Public Comments - none

Celebrations

- **First Day of School:** BSD2 welcomed students in Grades K–8 back to classrooms on August 19, 2026.
- **Summer Projects:** Several projects and improvements were completed across the District over the summer in preparation for the new school year.
- **Pre-K Recognition – Gold Circle of Quality:** BSD2's Pre-K program received the Gold Circle of Quality, recognizing its commitment to providing high-quality early childhood education and programming.

Presentations

- Summer School Report** Shyla Kinhal, Curriculum Director and Summer School Principal, and Lydia Ryan, Assistant Superintendent of Teaching & Learning, reviewed Summer School programming, family feedback, enrollment, attendance, and academic growth.

- SY26 Traditional Summer School enrolled 192 students with 61% average daily attendance; Enrichment enrolled 126 students with 59% attendance.
- Curriculum utilized current Carnegie and HMH instructional materials.
- The report highlighted the connection between student attendance and academic progress, as well as teacher attendance.
- Summer of Service grew its enrollment, serving 55 students in 3rd-8th grade with an average daily attendance of 82.3%.

Board Committee Reports

A. Announcements – none

B. Appointment of Bensenville Community Foundation Representative – Mrs. Miller announced that Mr. Stoltman will be stepping down as one of the BCF representatives and Mrs. Cristina Reyes volunteered to take the position as a Bensenville Community Foundation Representative.

Administrative Reports

A. Announcements - none

B. FOIA – Mr. Keeley reported that there were 4 FOIA requests from The Data Breach Research

C. Annual Safety Meeting Report - Dustin Berman, Assistant Superintendent of Student Services, reviewed what was discussed at the August 10 Annual Safety meeting, which included BSD2 staff and administration, Bensenville Police and Fire Departments, Bensenville Emergency Management, and Fenton High School representatives. This meeting was an overview of the District's annual review of emergency and crisis response plans, procedures, and school safety drills.

Consent Items

A. Approval of Minutes

1. Rescheduled Regular Board of Education Meeting – July 22, 2026
2. No minutes from August 5, 2026 meeting. The meeting was cancelled due to no quorum.

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

B. Approval of Financial Reports

1. Bills July 2026

- a) Accounts Payable
- b) Imprest Checks
- c) Advanced Checks
- d) Credit Card Payments

2. Financial Statements as of July 31, 2026

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 these resignations.

The following classified staff members have submitted their resignations:

1. Ciara Patterson, Lunch Supervisor, Tioga Elementary School, effective June 2, 2026.
2. Vanessa Vargas, Special Ed Aide - Pre-K, BSD2 Early Childhood Program, effective September 4, 2026.

II. Ratification of Employment – Certified Staff

Recommendation: That the Board of Education ratifies the employment of Colleen Kernan, TOSA, W.A. Johnson Elementary School, effective August 17, 2026.

III. Ratification of Employment – Classified Staff

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

1. Ximena Banuelos, Special Education Paraprofessional, Tioga Elementary School, effective August 19, 2026.
2. Grace Friona, Library Media Assistant, Tioga Elementary School, effective August 17, 2026.
3. Dana Gatto, Preschool Special Education Paraprofessional, Early Learning Center, effective August 19, 2026.
4. Susha Jacob, Lunch/Recess Supervisor, Tioga Elementary School, effective August 19, 2026.
5. Andrea Lestina, Special Education Paraprofessional, W.A. Johnson Elementary School, effective August 17, 2026.
6. Yvette Robles, Special Education Paraprofessional, W.A. Johnson Elementary School, effective August 17, 2026.
7. Christine Sturm, Special Education Paraprofessional, Tioga Elementary School, effective August 17, 2026.
8. Morgan Wilder, Special Education Paraprofessional, W.A. Johnson Elementary School, effective August 19, 2026.

IV. Notice of Intent to Retire

Recommendation: That the Board of Education approves the requests to participate in the District's Retirement Plan effective the end of 2028-2029 school year.

1. Mary Larsen, STEM Teacher, W.A. Johnson Elementary School
2. Greg Salecker, 7th Grade Social Science Teacher & TOSA Teacher, Blackhawk Middle School

V. Authorize Stipend Appointments for Certified Staff

Recommendation: That the Board of Education ratifies the creation of all the stipend positions to be filled by teachers selected by the principals and subject to the Superintendent's approval.

D. Hazardous Transportation Routes

Recommendation: That the Board of Education resolve that the presently approved safety hazard transportation conditions remain unchanged and that free transportation for the identified population be approved for the 2026-27 school year as presented and attached.

E. Review Closed Session Minutes & Destruction of Tapes

Recommendations: That the Board of Education

- (1) direct the Superintendent to destroy closed meeting recordings that are at least 18 months old for which approved minutes of the closed meeting already exist; and
- (2) find the need for confidentiality still exists as to all of its closed session minutes.

F. Non-Resident Tuition and Designation of Hearing Officers

Recommendation: That the Board of Education (1) designate the principals and assistant principals of each school as Hearing Officers for that school to determine residency of their students, each able to conduct hearings individually; and (2) establish an annual tuition rate for non-resident students of **\$23,491 for 2026-27.**

G. Approval of Updated Authorized Advance Check List

Recommendation: That the Board of Education approve the amended Advance Check List as presented.

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

Roll Call Vote:

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

Nay: None

Absent: Stoltman

Motion Carried.

Conference/Action Items

A. Approval of District Threat Assessment Procedure & Team Members for 2026-27

Mr. Berman reported that each school district must implement a threat assessment procedure that may be part of the school board policy on targeted school violence prevention. The procedure must include the creation of a threat assessment team. The team must include ALL of the following members: Administrator; Teacher; School Counselor; School Psychologist; School Social Worker; Law Enforcement Official.

★ BSD2 Threat Assessment Team

★ BSD2 Threat Assessment Procedures

A school's Threat Assessment Team (TAT) is a multidisciplinary group, responsible for identifying and evaluating students who may pose a threat to themselves or others. The procedure involves an initial referral from staff, students, or parents regarding potential concerning behaviors. The TAT then gathers information, assesses the level of risk, and develops an intervention plan. This plan might include counseling, support services, disciplinary action. In high-risk cases, the Superintendent and Asst. Superintendent of Students service along with law enforcement and mental health professionals are included in all threat assessments to ensure the safety and well-being of the school community.

Mr. Berman reported that a specific threat assessment policy is not required; however, the district's procedures are guided by applicable State statutes and guidance by district legal counsel. The Board of Education is required to review the plan and approve the Threat Assessment Team annually.

A motion was made by Mrs. Gonzalez and seconded by Mrs. Dye that Board of Education review the plan and approve the Threat Assessment team for the 2026-27 school year.

Roll Call Vote:

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

Nay: None

Absent: Stoltman

Motion Carried.

B. Approval of Concussion Oversight Team

Mr. Berman reported that the Illinois Youth Sports Concussion Safety Act mandates that all public, private, and charter schools establish a Concussion Oversight Team (COT) and develop comprehensive return-to-play and return-to-learn protocols for students suspected of experiencing a concussion. This legislation underscores the serious nature of concussions and head injuries in youth sports and the necessity for standardized, evidence-based management.

[BSD2 Venue Specific Emergency Action Plan.pdf](#)
[BSD2 Concussion Oversight Team Members 2026-27](#)

Mr. Berman reported that the Board must appoint or approve member(s) of a Concussion Oversight Team for the District.

A motion was made by Mrs. Reyes and seconded by Mrs. Gonzalez that Board of Education reviews the plan and approves the Concussion Oversight team for the 2026-27 school year. Upon voice vote, all board members present voted aye. Motion carried.

C. Review Absenteeism & Truancy

Mr. Berman reported that according to school code 105 ILCS 5/2292; 23 Ill.Admin. Code §207.30(a) the Board must review and update as necessary Policy 7:70, Attendance and Truancy every two years. The policy was last reviewed and updated in December of 2025. The policy must be filed with ISBE by September 30th of the review year. 2026-27 is the review year for this policy.

Mr. Berman reported at this time [Policy 7:70, Attendance and Truancy](#) just needs to be re-evaluated, we are not recommending any updates at this time.

Mr. Berman also reported that the information provided to the Board of Education in the [Absenteeism & Truancy Update](#) outlines the current and trend Chronic Truancy data along with the initiatives put in place by the district. The district continually collects and reviews chronic absence data from each school and determines what systems of support and resources are needed to engage chronically absent students and their families.

A motion was made by Mrs. Dye and seconded by Mrs. Reyes that the Board of Education re-evaluate Policy 7:70, Attendance and Truancy and deem that no changes are necessary.

Roll Call Vote:

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

Nay: None

Absent: Stoltman

Motion Carried.

D. 1st Reading Policy Revisions

- 6:50 - School Wellness
- 6:65 - Student Social & Emotional Development
- 7:100 - Health, Eye, and Dental Examinations; Immunizations; and Exclusion of Students
- 7:180 - Prevention of and Response to Bullying, Intimidation, and Harassment

Mr. Keeley reported that the following policies are being recommended for revision for reasons listed:

<u>6:50, School Wellness</u>	The policy, Legal References, and footnotes are updated. The policy and Legal References are updated with minor style changes. The footnotes are updated in response to: 1. 105 ILCS 5/27-215 and 5/27-235, added by P.A. 104-391, replacing, in part, 105 ILCS 110/3 and 110/3.5; 2. P.A. 104-391, renumbering and reorganizing various provisions throughout 105 ILCS 5/27; 3. Farm Fresh Schools Program Act, 105 ILCS 24/, and State Finance Act, 30 ILCS 105/5.728, both repealed by P.A. 104-435, eliminating the Farm Fresh Schools Program and its related funding; and 4. Continuous improvement.
<u>6:65, Student Social & Emotional Development</u>	The policy, Legal References, and footnotes are updated for continuous improvement. The footnotes are also updated in response to 105 ILCS 5/27-1080, renumbered by P.A. 104-391.
<u>7:100, Health, Eye, and Dental Examinations; Immunizations; and Exclusion of Students</u>	NO CHANGES to policy - The Legal References and footnotes are updated in response to 105 ILCS 5/22-105, titled <i>Health examinations and immunizations</i> (formerly 105 ILCS 5/27-8.1), renumbered by P.A. 104-391. The footnotes are also updated for continuous improvement.
<u>7:180, Prevention of and Response to Bullying, Intimidation, and Harassment</u>	The policy, Legal References, and footnotes are updated in response to 105 ILCS 5/22-110, amended by P.A. 104-338, eff. 7-1-26, and renumbered by P.A. 104-391, expanding the bullying definition to prohibit posting or distributing sexually explicit images and, beginning in the 2026-2027 school year, expanding the cyberbullying definition to prohibit posting or distributing an unauthorized digital replica. The policy and footnotes are also updated in response to 23 Ill. Admin.Code §1.295(c)(2), requiring updated bullying policies submitted to ISBE to contain the date of adoption.

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

E. Approval of Memorandums of Understanding with the BEA

Dr. McCluskey reported that the District entered into a new contract with the Bensenville Education Association for the 2026-2030 school years. Through discussions between administration and BEA, there is a need to reinstate the formal District Insurance Committee composed of representatives from the Association and Administration and the addition of stipend positions for Middle School Grade Level Teacher Leader and Middle School Department Chair.

Dr. McCluskey reported that the District and the Bensenville Education Association (BEA) finalized two Memoranda of Understanding (MOUs) related to implementation of the 2026-2030 Collective Bargaining Agreement.

- **Insurance Committee MOU:**

The first MOU reinstates the formal District Insurance Committee composed of representatives from the Association and Administration. The committee will review insurance cost data, claims history, projected premium increases, and other relevant information to identify opportunities to manage health insurance costs. While the committee will not have authority to change benefit or premium levels, it will provide recommendations to the Board, the Association, and non-union employees prior to annual open enrollment. Final decisions regarding recommendations will remain with the Board of Education.

- **Extra Duty Assignments MOU:**

The second MOU adds the positions of Middle School Grade Level Teacher Leader and Middle School Department Chair to Appendix A of the collective bargaining agreement as compensated extra-duty assignments. This MOU addresses a longstanding compensation structure in which multiple PLC leadership positions received the same stipend (\$4,274) despite significant differences in responsibilities, workload, and time commitments. Working collaboratively with the BEA, the District established clearer roles and responsibilities for these leadership positions and

aligned the stipends more appropriately with the scope of work performed. Beginning in the 2026–2027 school year, Grade Level Teacher Leaders will receive an annual stipend of \$2,752 and Department Chairs will receive \$2,293, with future increases governed by the collective bargaining agreement. This change better aligns compensation with assigned duties while recognizing the important leadership contributions of these positions and demonstrates a collaborative approach to responsible fiscal stewardship.

A motion was made by Mrs. Reyes and seconded by Mrs. Gonzalez that the Board of Education approve the two MOU's with the Bensenville Education Association.

- 1.) Insurance Committee MOU**
- 2.) Extra Duty Assignments MOU**

Roll Call Vote:

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

Nay: None

Absent: Stoltman

Motion Carried.

New Business

Dr. McCluskey reported that the District has received an invitation to the Bensenville Park District Waggin' Tail Dog Park Community Kickoff Celebration on Saturday, August 22, from 9-12 noon at Veterans Park. Event activities include vendors, raffles, giveaways, family activities, ceremonial groundbreaking, DuPage County Sheriff canine demo and free food! Photo opportunity at 10:00 a.m.

Closed Session - none

Adjournment

At 7:41 p.m. a motion was made by Mr. Laudadio 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, Mrs. Miller adjourned the meeting at 7:41 p.m.

President

Secretary