



Bensenville Elementary School District 2

Board of Education Regular Meeting
Minutes – September 16, 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 (arrived 6:35 p.m.)	
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	

Other Staff Present: Shannon Steen MTSS & Assessment Coordinator, Maggie Hanley – Student Services Coordinator @ WAJ, Carlos Patiño – Principal, WAJ, Saul Melendez – Asst. Principal, WAJ, Diana Vergara, Principal BMS, Jacqui Le-Mon Williamson – Asst. Principal, BMS, Nichole Zipprich – Asst. Principal, BMS Jeff Kersten – Principal, Tioga School, Kylene Wolfe – Asst. Principal, Tioga School, Christy Poli, Early Childhood Program Principal, Pam Laguna, Food Service Director – Sodexo,

Community Members: Debbie Brill, William Krajecki, Nancy Quinn

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

Public Comments - none

Celebrations

- **Dolly Parton's Imagination Library Launch:** On September 15, BSD2 partnered with the Bensenville Community Public Library to launch Dolly Parton's Imagination Library in our community. District 2 and the library are working together to sign up all Bensenville children ages 0-5 in the program. Children who are registered in the program will receive one free book every month by mail until they reach age 5.
- **Pre-K First Day of School:** BSD2 welcomed Pre-K students for their first day of school on August 24, 2026.

- **Board Member Recognition:** The Illinois Association of School Boards (IASB) is recognizing Board Member Jacqueline Dye and Board President Jim Stoltman with the Established Leader recognition for their service and dedication to the BSD2 Board of Education.

Presentations

District Strategic Plan Dr. Katie McCluskey, Superintendent of BSD2, Lydia Ryan, Assistant Superintendent of Teaching and Learning, and Tim Keeley, Chief School Business Official, presented the District's 2026–27 Strategic Plan, outlining key priorities and goals for the upcoming school year. The plan focuses on academics, climate and culture, safety and security, staff, and finance and resources, with diversity and social-emotional well-being incorporated throughout District decision-making.

BSD2 will focus on high-quality Tier 1 instruction, data-driven practices and professional learning communities; clear communication and strong family and community partnerships; safe and secure learning environments; staff recruitment, retention, professional growth; and responsible fiscal planning and management of facilities, technology, and transportation.

Progress will be monitored through student growth and achievement data, stakeholder engagement and feedback, school climate measures, staff recruitment and retention data, safety outcomes, and fiscal and operational measures.

School Improvement Plans

- **Early Childhood** Dr. Christy Poli, Principal of Early Learning, presented the Early Learning Center's Strategic Improvement Plan, outlining key priorities and goals for the 2026–27 school year. The plan focuses on academic growth, student attendance, Professional Learning Community (PLC) success, school climate and culture, and multilingual learner development. The Early Learning Center will use high-quality instruction, tiered attendance supports, data analysis, family outreach and engagement, professional learning, and language-rich learning environments to support progress toward these goals. Success will be measured through increased student achievement, reduced chronic absenteeism, stronger PLC practices, improved school climate and collaboration, and increased English language development among multilingual learners.
- **Tioga School** Dr. Jeff Kersten, Tioga Principal, and Kylene Wolfe, Assistant Principal, presented their school's Strategic Improvement Plan, outlining key priorities and goals for the 2026–27 school year. The plan focuses on improving student attendance and engagement; school climate, culture, and family partnerships; academic growth; multilingual learner development; and responsive instruction. Tioga will use data-driven instruction, targeted student supports, family engagement opportunities, staff collaboration, and professional learning to support progress toward these goals. Success will be measured through increased academic growth and English language proficiency, improved student and staff attendance, stronger family and community partnerships, and a positive school climate.
- **Johnson School** Carlos Patiño, W.A. Johnson Principal, and Saul Melendez, Assistant Principal, presented their school's Strategic Improvement Plan, outlining key priorities and goals for the 2026–27 school year. The plan focuses on student attendance, academic growth, Professional Learning Communities (PLCs), English Learner student progress, communication, instructional leadership, professional collaboration, and staff voice. Johnson will use data-driven instruction, targeted attendance supports, strengthened PLC practices, staff collaboration, family outreach, and high-quality language instruction to support progress toward these goals. Success will be measured by improved attendance and reduced chronic absenteeism, increased academic growth and achievement, stronger PLC and instructional leadership practices, improved English Learner progress, and a positive, supportive school climate and culture.
- **Blackhawk Middle School** Diana Vergara, Blackhawk Middle School Principal; Nichole Zipprich, Assistant Principal, and Jacquelyn LeMon-Williamson, Assistant Principal, presented their school's Strategic

Improvement Plan, outlining key priorities and goals for the 2026–27 school year. The plan focuses on academic growth, English Learner progress toward proficiency, Professional Learning Community (PLC) development, school climate and culture, and student and staff attendance. BMS will use high-quality Tier 1 instruction, structured student discourse, intentional co-planning and co-teaching, data-driven PLC practices, shared leadership, family engagement, and targeted attendance supports to make progress toward these goals.

Board Committee Reports

A. Announcements – none

Administrative Reports

A. Announcements - none

B. FOIA – Mr. Keeley reported on the FOIA requests that have been received. See attached.

Consent Items

A. Approval of Minutes

1. Regular Board of Education Meeting – August 19, 2026

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

B. Approval of Financial Reports

1. Bills August 2026
 - A. Accounts Payable
 - B. Imprest Checks
 - C. Advanced Checks
 - D. Credit Card Payments
2. Financial Statements as of August 31, 2026

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

C: Personnel

I. Resignation of Classified Staff

The following classified staff members have submitted their resignations:

1. Ms. Mehta is leaving the District for **purposes of retirement** effective September 30, 2026.
2. Mrs. Morales Galvan is leaving the District effective September 2, 2026.
3. Ms. Sanchez is leaving the District effective September 18, 2026.
4. Ms. Thompson is leaving the District effective September 25, 2026.
5. Mrs. Tronnes Hernandez is leaving the District effective September 25, 2026.

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

II. Ratification of Employment – Classified Staff

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

1. Shared Armoush, Special Education Paraprofessional, Tioga Elementary School, effective September 21, 2026.
2. Bethzy Ortega, Lunch Supervisor, Tioga Elementary School, effective September 14, 2026.

3. Maria Elizabeth Paredes, Afternoon Crossing Guard, Blackhawk Middle School, effective August 31, 2026.
4. Isabelle Schreiner, Lunch Supervisor, Tioga Elementary School, effective September 14, 2026.

III. Notice of Intent to Retire

Recommendation: That the Board of Education approves these requests to participate in the District's Retirement Plan.

1. Maria Morris, EL Teacher, Tioga Elementary School, effective the end of the 2029-2030 school year.
2. Nicole Olsen, TOSA, Tioga Elementary School, effective the end of the 2029-2030 school year.
3. Mary Yetter, EL Teacher, Tioga Elementary School, effective the end of the 2026-2027 school year.

IV. Approval of Long-Term Substitute

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

1. Kathleen O'Hara, Long-Term Substitute for Bilingual Social Worker at W.A. Johnson Elementary School, effective September 18, 2026 through December 18, 2026.

V. Parental Leave Request

Recommendation: That the Board of Education grant the parental leave for Tania Chlimon 5th grade Classroom Teacher at Tioga School, effective as of the completion of maternity leave until the end of the 2026-27 school year.

D. Shared Services Report

Shared services play a crucial role for Illinois school districts by promoting fiscal responsibility and operational efficiency. By collaborating with other districts and governmental bodies to collectively purchase goods and services, the District can achieve economies of scale, reduce administrative overhead, and maximize the impact of taxpayer dollars. This proactive approach ensures that resources are focused on student instruction and core educational programs while maintaining compliance with state requirements.

The District reports these efforts as follows:

- (1) included in the District's Annual Financial Report;
- (2) presented and approved by the Board; and
- (3) posted on the District's website.

Recommendation: That the Board of Education approve the Shared Service Report and direct the administration to post on the website.

E. Review & Posting of Compensation Report of Administrators and Teachers

School Code (105 ILCS 5/10-20.47 & 5/34-18.38) requires that each school board report to the State Board of Education, on or before October 1 of each year, the base salary and benefits (vacation days, sick days, bonuses, annuities, and retirement enhancements) of the district superintendent and all administrators and teachers employed by the school district.

Prior to annual reporting to the State Board of Education, the information must be presented at a regular school board meeting, and then posted on the Internet website of the school district. No Board action is required other than to receive the report.

Recommendation: That the Board of Education acknowledge review of the compensation report as presented and direct the administration to post on the website.

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

Roll Call Vote:

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

Nay: None

Absent: None

Motion Carried.

Conference/Action Items

A. 2nd Reading & Adoption of Policy Revisions – Mr. Keeley presented the following policies for 2nd reading and adoption. No further changes have been made to the proposed policy revisions and the administration recommends the adoption of the revised policies as presented.

- [6:50 - School Wellness](#)
- [6:65 - Student Social and 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](#)

A motion was made by Mr. Laudadio and seconded by Mrs. Gonzalez that the Board of Education adopt the revisions to the above listed policies as presented for 2nd Reading. Upon voice vote, all board members present voted aye. Motion carried.

B. Authorization to Submit FY26 School Maintenance Project Grant Application – Mr. Keeley reported that the ISBE School Maintenance Project Grant (SMPG) is an annual grant that is available to districts in amounts up to \$50,000 on a dollar for dollar match basis for qualified projects. The district applied for and received the maximum grant award in each of the last four years.

Mr. Keeley also reported that the District may submit an application for multiple projects, but awards are limited to one per District per award round. The final allocation for the program has yet to be determined, but we will ensure maximum potential funding by submitting an application that includes the replacement of end of life HVAC equipment and other significant capital improvements as identified in the JP Architects Master Assessment.

A motion was made by Mr. Laudadio and seconded by Mr. Mercado that the Board grant the Administration authority to submit applications for funding under the 2027 SMPG program as outlined above. Upon voice vote, all board members present voted aye. Motion carried.

New Business

none

Closed Session

- A. At 7:31 p.m. a motion was made by Mrs. Gonzalez 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 or legal counsel for the public body, including hearing testimony on a complaint lodged against an employee of the public body or against legal counsel for the public body to determine its validity. 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(1).* And **Security Procedures**.

Roll Call Vote:

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

Nay: None

Absent: None

Motion Carried.

At 8:01 p.m. a motion was made by Mr. Laudadio and seconded by Mrs. Dye that the Board of Education adjourn from Closed Session. Upon voice vote, all board members present voted aye. Motion carried.

Adjournment

At 8:07 p.m. a motion was made by Mr. Laudadio and seconded by Mrs. Reyes 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 8:07 p.m.

President

Secretary