

**BENTON COMMUNITY SCHOOL DISTRICT
IN THE COUNTIES OF TAMA, BENTON, AND IOWA, STATE OF IOWA
BENTON REGULAR BOARD MEETING, WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 16, 6:00 PM
DISTRICT OFFICE BOARD ROOM**

President Becker announcement: This meeting is held electronically and in person as per Iowa Code Section 21.8 which permits a governmental body to conduct a meeting by electronic means. Public access will be provided to the extent reasonably possible. The notice of the meeting on our school website indicating the “place from which the communication originates and where/how public access is provided to the conversation,” and meeting minutes will be kept.

Regular Meeting

1. Call to Order: 6:00 P.M:

Present: Directors Becker, Ludeking, Nolte (Zoom), Stepanek, Thompson, Upah, and Werning. A Quorum was declared present.

Also Present: Dr. Ewell, Dr. Bieschke, Rob Arnold, Phil Eastman, Shawn Pfiffner (on Zoom), Jason West (on Zoom), Anna Upah (on Zoom), Christine Neff (on Zoom) and Cynda Mehlert (on Zoom).

2. Action Item #53- Delegations, Communications, Considerations of Additional Items for the Agenda

Additions to personnel consent agenda substitute bus driver Darin Brunssen and substitute van driver Wayne Reinhardt.

To add Iowa Code to Closed Session – “and/or pursuant to Iowa Code Section 21.5(1)(a) to ‘review or discuss records which are required or authorized by state or federal law to be kept confidential or to be kept confidential as a condition for that governmental body's possession or continued receipt of federal funds”

Motion by Stepanek, second by Ludeking to approve agenda and additional items.

MOTION CARRIED
ALL MEMBERS PRESENT VOTING AYE

3. Open Forum

No Public Comment

4. Action Item #54 – Approval of Agenda

Motion by Thompson, second by Stepanek to approve agenda as presented.

MOTION CARRIED
ALL MEMBERS PRESENT VOTING AYE

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5. School Improvement Report – Information Only

District personnel presented school achievement and HS re-design information.

a. Preschool report and presentation

Cynda Mehlert and Christine Neff presented information on preschool program.

b. High School Redesign Update

Dr. Ewell and Rob Arnold presented the board an update on HS redesign data.

6. Action Item #55 Dropout Prevention/At Risk Modified Supplement

Motion by Stepanek, second by Nolte to approve the modified supplemental amount for at-risk dropout prevention at \$266,147.

MOTION CARRIED
ALL MEMBERS PRESENT VOTING AYE

7. Action Item #56 Early Graduation Requests

Motion by Thompson, second by Upah to approve the following early graduation requests pending completion of all graduation requirements.

- i. Kyler Redmond
- ii. Alyssa Sebolt
- iii. Rhylee Stone
- iv. Coleton Usher
- v. Ethan Weirather

MOTION CARRIED
ALL MEMBERS PRESENT VOTING AYE

8. Action Item #57 Early Retirement Plan

Motion by Ludeking, second by Werning to approve and receipt the early retirement application for end of Fiscal 2021 for Gina Embray.

MOTION CARRIED
ALL MEMBERS PRESENT VOTING AYE

9. Administration

No action – information only

10. Action Item #58 Business Services

Motion by Stepanek, second by Upah to approve the warrants and financial reports as presented.

a. WARRANTS

- i. PRELIMINARY WARRANTS
- ii. ADDITIONAL WARRANTS
- iii. SUMMARY OF PAID WARRANTS

b. FINANCIAL REPORTS

- i. [GENERAL FUND REPORT](#)
- ii. [ALL FUNDS REPORT](#)
- iii. [NOVEMBER CLOSE REPORT-IA - MONTHLY FUND REPORTING](#)

11. August 10 Storm Damage Update

Progress continues on restoration for storm damage. Press Box was added to the schedule for construction and installation this week. All high slope steel has been delivered and Modern Builders has staged crews to begin the MS/HS final roof phase, starting at the Stadium. The Greenhouse has posted and now revised schedule to start January 4, 2021. Wood Pole work at Keystone, Norway and Atkins started this week with work to continue through December 30th. Perfection and EMC continue to support the district in recovery with professional and timely service. No actions of the board for restoration and storm damage are required for December 2020. Repairs, restoration, and replacement costing remains estimated at 5.8 to 6.8 million dollars

No action - information only.

12. Action Item #59, Business Services

REVIEW

- a. [Policy 501.2 - Resident Students](#)
- b. [Policy 501.3 - Nonresident Students](#)
- c. [Policy 501.4R1 - Attendance Cooperation Process](#)
- d. [Policy 501.6 - Entrance Admissions](#)
- e. [Policy 501.7 - School Attendance Areas](#)
- f. [Policy 501.8 - Student Transfers In](#)
- g. [Policy 501.8A - Transfer-In Student Eligibility](#)
- h. [Policy 501.9 - Student Transfers Out or Withdrawals](#)

Motion by Werning, second by Thompson to approve policy as presented.

MOTION CARRIED
ALL MEMBERS PRESENT VOTING AYE

13. Action Item #60 - Virtual LEARNING SNOW DAYS

Motion by Thompson, second by Werning to approve Remote Virtual Learning Snow Days as presented.

MOTION CARRIED
ALL MEMBERS PRESENT VOTING AYE

14. Action Item# 61 Consent Agenda

- A. PERSONNEL - all hires are contingent on an approved background check/fingerprinting and appropriate degree and licensure.
 - a. Hires
 - i. Emily Swenson - Food Service
 - ii. Kyle Kolsrud - Asst. Robotics Sponsor

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- iii. Romello Hidalgo-Monjaras -Asst. Varsity Wrestling Coach
- iv. Alyssa Schmuecker- Musical (now SCHEDULED FOR spring) Vocal Assistant
- v. Zach Lazenby - Custodian
- vi. Wayne Reinhardt - Van Driver
- vii. Darin Brunssen - Sub. Bus Driver
- b. Volunteers
 - i. Evan Woods - Volunteer Wrestling Coach
 - ii. Softball & Baseball Volunteers - [Recommendation](#)
- B. Meeting Minutes -
 - a. Board Meeting Minutes - [November 11, 2020](#)

Motion by Thompson, second by Stepanek to approve Consent Agenda as presented.

MOTION CARRIED
ALL MEMBERS PRESENT VOTING AYE

15. SUPERINTENDENT REPORT

- A. Update & Report
 - i. UPDATE - FACILITIES STUDY/ADVISORY COMMITTEE
 - 1. [Summary from committee meeting](#)
 - ii. Grant - Johnson County and the MH/DS of the East Central Region covers Benton, Buchanan, Bremer, Delaware, Dubuque, Iowa, Johnson, Jones and Linn Counties
 - iii. Legislative lobbying and advocacy
 - 1. https://www.ia-sb.org/Main/Advocacy_Center/Virtual_Lobby_Days.aspx
 - iv. Radio and telecommunications update
 - v. Central Lutheran update
- B. Board goals - update and progress
 - vi. GOAL #4 UPDATE: FACILITIES & INFRASTRUCTURE GOAL - UPDATE
 - 1. Facilities Committee meeting - Dec. 9
 - a. [Summary from committee meeting](#)
 - vii. GOAL #5 UPDATE: MARKETING AND CUSTOMER SATISFACTION - UPDATE
 - 1. No new priority updates
 - 2. Continue working with 5Maps, county Assessor/Auditor office
 - 3. Promotional booklet
 - 4. Continued communication with our staff, students and parents
 - a. Facebook
 - b. Through SchoolMessenger
 - c. Employee report

No action – Information Only

16. Action Item #62 Closed Session

Motion to move to closed session as per Iowa Code 21.5(e) To discuss whether to conduct a hearing or to conduct hearings to suspend or expel a student, unless an open session is requested by the student or a parent or guardian of the student if the student is a minor and/or pursuant to Iowa Code Section 21.5(1)(a) to 'review or discuss records which are required or authorized by state or federal law to be kept confidential or to be kept confidential as a condition for that governmental body's possession or continued receipt of federal funds

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TIME 8:00 P.M.

Motion by Stepanek, Second by Ludeking to move to closed session.

Roll Call Vote: Becker, Ludeking, Nolte (Zoom), Stepanek, Thompson, Upah, Werning

MOTION CARRIED
ALL MEMBERS PRESENT VOTING AYE

Motion by Thompson, second by Stepanek to move to open session.

TIME 8:45 P.M.

Roll Call Vote: Becker, Ludeking, Nolte (Zoom), Stepanek, Thompson, Upah, Werning

MOTION CARRIED
ALL MEMBERS PRESENT VOTING AYE

Motion: Per Iowa Code 21.5(e) To discuss whether to conduct a hearing or to conduct hearings to suspend or expel a student, unless an open session is requested by the student or a parent or guardian of the student if the student is a minor and/or pursuant to Iowa Code Section 21.5(1)(a) to 'review or discuss records which are required or authorized by state or federal law to be kept confidential or to be kept confidential as a condition for that governmental body's possession or continued receipt of federal funds.

1. Accept the terms of the Consent Agreement for student A who is the subject of the suspension.
2. Accept the terms of the Consent Agreement for student B who is the subject of the suspension.
3. Accept the terms of the Consent Agreement for student C who is the subject of the suspension.

Motion by Thompson, second by Ludeking.

MOTION CARRIED
ALL MEMBERS PRESENT VOTING AYE

17. Action Item# 63 Adjournment

Motion by Nolte, second by Thompson to adjourn meeting, 8:50 P.M.

MOTION CARRIED
ALL MEMBERS PRESENT VOTING AYE