

**BENTON COMMUNITY SCHOOL DISTRICT  
IN THE COUNTIES OF TAMA, BENTON, AND IOWA, STATE OF IOWA  
BENTON REGULAR BOARD MEETING, Wednesday, December 18, 2019, 6:00 PM  
BENTON COMMUNITY CENTRAL ADMINISTRATION OFFICE BOARD ROOM  
304 1<sup>ST</sup> STREET, VAN HORNE, IOWA 52346**

**1. Board Meeting Opened: 6:00 P.M. with a call to order by Board President Pat Stepanek.**

**Present:** Directors Becker, Reinhardt (left meeting at 6:10 p.m.), Ludeking, Stepanek, Thompson and Upah.

**ABSENT:** Directors Ludeking and Nolte.

**Also Present:** Dr. Ewell, Doug Embray, Dr. Bieschke, Anna Upah, Jason West and Phil Eastman

A quorum was declared present.

**2. Delegations, Communications, Considerations of Additional Items for the Agenda:**

Dr. Ewell noted updated change for legislative coffee for the board now being rescheduled to January 6, 2020 at 10:00 a.m., Central Office Board Room.

**3. Approval of Agenda:**

**Action #85    Approval of Agenda**

Motion by Becker, second by Thompson to approve agenda.

MOTION CARRIED  
ALL MEMBERS PRESENT VOTING AYE

**4. Recognition:**

President Stepanek recognized Director Reinhardt for his service to the Benton Community School District and for his years of service to the Benton Community School Board with the presentation of a plaque and event pass.

**Action #86    Resignation**

Dr. Ewell recommended accepting Wayne Reinhardt's, Board Director 6's resignation as presented and directed the Board Secretary to publish the notice in the Cedar Valley Times of the board's intent to fill the vacancy by appointment pursuant to Iowa Code 279.6

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Motion by Becker, second by Upah to accept Wayne Reinhardt, Board Director 6's, resignation as presented and to direct the Board Secretary to publish the notice in the Cedar Valley Times of the Board's intent to fill the vacancy by appointment pursuant to Iowa Code 279.65.

MOTION CARRIED  
ALL MEMBERS PRESENT VOTING AYE

**5. State Representatives**

Item moved to January 6, 2020 to Central Office Board Room to start at 10:00 a.m.

**6. Open Forum**

No Public Comment

**7. Food Service Department Mid-Year Report**

Item moved to January 15, 2020 regular board meeting.

**8. Student Testing and Assessments**  
**Counselor presentations – Assessment and Testing information.**

Item moved to January 15, 2020 regular board meeting.

**9. School Improvement**  
**Iowa Statewide Assessment of Student Progress (ISASP) Information**

Item moved to January 15, 2020 regular board meeting.

**10. EARLY GRADUATION REQUESTS:**

**Action #87** Dr. Ewell & Dr. Bieschke recommended acceptance of the request for early graduation as presented – Anna Thompson.

Motion by Thompson, second by Becker to accept early graduation request as presented.

MOTION CARRIED  
ALL MEMBERS PRESENT VOTING AYE

**11. High School Course Guide for 2020-21**

**Action #88 HIGH SCHOOL COURSE GUIDE FOR 2020-21**  
a. [Course revisions](#)

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- b. Dr. Ewell, Ms. Upah, & Dr. Bieschke recommended acceptance of the High School Course Guide for 2020-21 as presented.

Motion by Thompson, second by Upah to accept High School Course Guide for Fiscal 21 as presented.

MOTION CARRIED  
ALL MEMBERS PRESENT VOTING AYE

### 12. ADMINISTRATION REPORT

- a. [Administration Report](#)
- b. [ISASP Results](#)
- c. [Stephanie's Journey](#)

Items moved to January 15, 2020 regular board meeting.

### 13. INSTRUCTIONAL SUPPORT LEVY EXTENSION

Dr. Ewell recommended setting the date of January 15, 2020 at 6:00 p.m. for the public hearing for the Benton Community School District's Resolution to participate in the Instructional Support Program as provided in Iowa Code sections 257.18 through

257.21. [ISL data handout](#)

- a. [RESOLUTION OF INTENT TO PARTICIPATE](#)
- b. [SET PUBLIC HEARING DATE](#)

#### Action #89 Instructional Support Levy Extension

Motion by Becker, second by Thompson to set public hearing for ISL, Instructional Support Levy for January 15, 2020 at 6:00 p.m. for the public hearing for the Benton Community School District's Resolution to participate in the Instructional Support Program as provided in Iowa Code sections 257.18 through 257.21.

MOTION CARRIED  
ALL MEMBERS PRESENT VOTING AYE

### 14. BUSINESS SERVICES

#### Action #90 Preliminary Warrants

Doug Embray reported on the following and Dr. Ewell and Mr. Embray recommended approval of the Financial Reports as presented:

[PRELIMINARY WARRANTS](#)

Motion by Thompson, second by Upah to approve warrants as presented.

MOTION CARRIED  
ALL MEMBERS PRESENT VOTING AYE

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- Action #91**    **Financial Reports**  
1. [GENERAL FUND REPORT](#)  
2. [ALL FUNDS REPORT](#)

Motion by Thompson, second by Becker to accept financial reports as presented.

MOTION CARRIED  
ALL MEMBERS PRESENT VOTING AYE

**15. FACILITIES**

Dr. Ewell and Doug Embray recommended a review of RFP's

No action on this item. Moved to January 8, 2020 work session to start at 6:00 P.M.

**EARLY RETIREMENT ACCEPTANCE**

- Action #92**    **Early Retirement Acceptance**

Dr. Ewell recommended accepting the retirement request as presented.

- Jane Svestka - Director, Food Service Program - Year 1, FY'20

Directors discussed the exemplary performance of the District's Food Service Program and commended Director of Food Service Jane Svestka for her dedication to the duty assignments and responsibilities.

Motion by Thompson, second by Upah to accept Jane Svestka's resignation and acceptance of early retirement.

MOTION CARRIED  
ALL MEMBERS PRESENT VOTING AYE

**16. POLICY**

- a. **Dr. Ewell recommended review and revisions of the following policies as presented.**

- Action #93**    **Policy Review**
- [Policy 101 - Legal Status of the School District](#)
  - [Policy 102 & 102.R1- Long-Range Needs Assessments](#)
  - [Policy 905.4 405-- Tobacco/Nicotine-Free Environment](#)
  - [Policy 200.2 - Benton Community School District](#)
  - [Policy 202.4 - Board Vacancies](#)
  - [Policy 203 - Conflict of Interest](#)
  - [Policy 204 - Code of Ethics](#)
  - [Policy 205.1 - Board Member Liability](#)

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- [Policy 206.1 - President](#)
- [Policy 206.2 - Vice President](#)
- [Policy 208.1 - Temporary Committees of the Board AD HOC COMMITTEES](#)
- [Policy 300 - Role of School District Administration](#)
- [Policy 302.1 - Superintendent-Qualifications, Recruitment, Appointment](#)
- [Policy 302.6 - Superintendent Professional Development](#)
- [Policy 302.7 - Superintendent Civic Activities](#)
- [Policy 303.2 - Administrator Qualifications, Recruitment, Appointments](#)
- [Policy 401.3 - Nepotism](#)
- [Policy 401.6 - Personnel Relations to Administration and to the Board](#)
- [Policy 704.6 - Gifts, Grants and Bequests](#)
- [Policy 920 - Naming of District Facilities and Events](#) - NEW SAMPLE POLICY
- Example policy - from Urbandale - [Naming of District Facilities](#) and Events

Motion by Thompson, second by Upah to table board policy action to January 15, 2020 regular board meeting.

MOTION CARRIED  
ALL MEMBERS PRESENT VOTING AYE

**17. CONSENT AGENDA**

**Action #94 Consent Agenda**

- a. Dr. Ewell recommended that the approval of the entire consent agenda. Motion by Thompson, second by Upah to accept consent agenda as presented with the exception of item #4 Facilities Use Request to discuss separately of consent agenda.

MOTION CARRIED  
ALL MEMBERS PRESENT VOTING AYE

**b. CONSENT AGENDA**

**Personnel**

**1. HIRES**

- a. Miranda Bistline - Special Education Associate, Keystone Center
- b. Kayla Schrader - Special Education Associate, Atkins Center
- c. Lisa Ward - Early Childhood Special Education, Atkins Center

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- 2. RESIGNATIONS**
  - a. [Wendy Plotz](#)
  - b. Tina Vogt
  - c. [Holly Kimm](#)
- 3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**
  - a. 11-25-19 [Minutes](#)
- 4. FACILITY USE REQUESTS**

**Action #95      Request for Usage**

Motion by Thompson, second by Becker to table discussion and approval considerations for facility use to the regular January 15, 2020 board meeting.

MOTION CARRIED  
ALL MEMBERS PRESENT VOTING AYE

**18. UPCOMING EVENTS - information only**

- a. Superintendent information
  - Work Session - **Jan. 8**, at 6:00 p.m.
  - Next Regular meeting - **January 15**, 2019
- b. AT-RISK/DROP OUT - January meeting
- c. CENSUS - PRELIMINARY COMMUNICATIONS WITH SCHOOLS
  - [STATE OF IOWA](#) INFORMATION

**19. ADJOURNMENT**

**Action #96      Adjournment**

Motion by Becker, second by Thompson to adjourn meeting.

MOTION CARRIED  
ALL MEMBERS PRESENT VOTING AYE

Meeting adjourned at 7:25 p.m.