

**BENTON COMMUNITY SCHOOL DISTRICT
IN THE COUNTIES OF TAMA, BENTON, AND IOWA, STATE OF IOWA
BENTON REGULAR BOARD MEETING, WEDNESDAY, JUNE 17, 6:00 PM
BENTON COMMUNITY CENTRAL ADMINISTRATION OFFICE BOARD ROOM
304 1ST STREET, VAN HORNE, IOWA 52346**

Board Meeting Opened: 6:00 P.M. Meeting was held both at the Central Administration office and electronically (audio) with a call to order by President Pat Stepanek.

1. Call to Order:

Present: Directors Becker (on ZOOM), Ludeking, Nolte, Stepanek, Thompson, Upah and Werning. (All directors Present unless noted otherwise.) A Quorum was declared present.

Also Present: Dr. Ewell, Doug Embray, Dr. Bieschke, Shawn Pfiffner, Rob Arnold, Anna Upah, Phil Eastman, Diane Redmond, and Jason West.

2. Retirees - Recognition

Board President Stepanek recognized Diane Trostel-Redmond for her 25 years of service and presented Diane with a retirement clock. Dr. Ewell commended Diane for her work with students and years of service to Benton Community Schools.

3. Action Item #167 - Delegations, Communications, Considerations of Additional Items for the Agenda

Motion by Nolte, second by Upah to add the following items to the agenda:

- a. Request to add resignation of Brandy Gilbert – Special Ed Associate.
- b. Request to add Larry Carlson – Summer Driver's Ed. Instructor

MOTION CARRIED
ALL MEMBERS PRESENT VOTING AYE

4. Open Forum

No public Comment

5. Action #168 – Approval of Agenda

Motion by Nolte, second by Thompson to approve the Agenda.

MOTION CARRIED
ALL MEMBERS PRESENT VOTING AYE

6. Action #169 – School Resource Officer – 28 E Agreement

Motion by Ludeking, second by Werning to approve the 28E agreement with the Benton County Sheriff Department for a school resource officer.

MOTION CARRIED
ALL MEMBERS PRESENT VOTING AYE

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7. **Action #170 – Return to Learn Plan**

Motion by Nolte, second by Thompson to approve the Return to Learn Plan for Benton Community recognizing that some revisions will be necessary depending on unknown future situations of illness, the pandemic and needs of our students, staff and school district.

MOTION CARRIED
ALL MEMBERS PRESENT VOTING AYE

8. **Action #171 - Business Services**

Motion by Nolte, second by Upah to approve the Business Services warrants and reports as presented.

MOTION CARRIED
ALL MEMBERS PRESENT VOTING AYE

9. **Action #172 – 2020-2022 Bread and Milk Bids**

Motion by Thompson, second by Upah to approve Bimbo Bakeries' bid for bread products and Anderson-Erickson's bids for the milk and dairy products

MOTION CARRIED
ALL MEMBERS PRESENT VOTING AYE

10. **Action Item #173 – Lunch and Breakfast Prices**

Motion by Nolte, second by Thompson to approve the lunch and breakfast prices/fees as presented.

MOTION CARRIED
ALL MEMBERS PRESENT VOTING AYE

11. **Facilities Assessment – Architectural Company - RFP**

Board discussed interview process, need for comprehensive reference checking, validating fee rates for items, process explanation for demography and school capacity categories, identifying team members for future work, percentage of success for school referendums, and context for totality of quote provided for service. **No action taken on this agenda item.**

12. **Action Item #174 - Technology**

Motion by Becker, second by Nolte to approve purchasing Chromebooks using the state bid quote from CDW of \$164,400.

MOTION CARRIED
ALL MEMBERS PRESENT VOTING AYE

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13. Action #175 – 2020-2021 School Fees/ 3-Year-Old Preschool Fees

Motion by Nolte, second by Thompson to approve the \$5/month increase for 3-year-old Preschool tuition.

MOTION CARRIED
ALL MEMBERS PRESENT VOTING AYE

14. Action #176 – 2020-2021 SCHOOL REGISTRATION FEES

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY: We have not increased registration fees for the past 2 years. A few of our line items are in need of a slight increase to keep up with expenditures. Recommendation was a slight increase for Book and Technology Fees (\$3 increase). To off-set possible reduced income for some of our families, we could keep all other registration fees neutral. However, we may need to increase these for FY'22.

Motion to approve the school registration fees as presented made by Ludeking, seconded by Werning.

MOTION CARRIED
ALL MEMBERS PRESENT VOTING AYE

15. ADMINISTRATION REPORTS

No Action on this Item.

16. Action Item #177 – Policy

- a. [Policy 206.3](#) - Board Officers - Secretary
- b. [Policy 206.4](#) - Treasurer
- c. [Policy 206.7](#) - Board Security and Protection
- d. [Policy 206.8](#) - New Board of Directors Member Orientation
- e. [Policy 207](#) - Board of Directors' Legal Counsel

Motion by Ludeking, second by Werning to approve policies as reviewed and revised.

MOTION CARRIED
ALL MEMBERS PRESENT VOTING AYE

17. Action Item #178 - Consent Agenda

- A. PERSONNEL - all hires are contingent on an approved background check/fingerprinting and appropriate degree and licensure.
 - Hires
 - 1. Rebecca Owens - Teacher, assigned to secondary (MS/HS) science
 - 2. Jill Prentice - Teacher, assigned to Kindergarten
 - 3. Ashley Phelan - 8th Grade Girls Basketball Coach

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4. Hudson Johnston - Teacher - assigned to MS Spec Ed, Secondary Interventionist
 5. Lisa Pickering - Food Service
 6. Billie Tope - Food Service
 7. Jennifer Freese - Summer Literacy Program
 8. Emily DeNeve - Summer Literacy Program
 9. Carissa Meyer - Summer Literacy Program
 10. Brooke Osborn - Summer Literacy Program
 11. Thomas Trainer - Head Girls Soccer
 12. Josh Hoeck - Assistant Varsity Wrestling Coach
 13. Larry Carlson - Summer Driver's Ed. Instructor
 14. Jeff Zittergruen - co-weight room supervisor
 15. Jake Voss - co-weight room supervisor
- B. CONTRACTS
- Grant Wood Software Access Agreement
 - Titan School Solutions
- B. FOREIGN EXCHANGE STUDENT – DENMARK
- a. No additional information to date
- D. Meeting Minutes - [Board Meeting Minutes 5/20/20](#), [Work Session Minutes 6/9/2020](#)

Motion by Ludeking, second by Werning to approve the Consent Agenda as presented.

MOTION CARRIED
ALL MEMBERS PRESENT VOTING AYE

18. Superintendent

- a. Updates
 - Preschool Playgrounds
 - [Marty Thomae](#) 2020 Recipient of IGHSAU Track & Field Gold Plaque Award
 - Transfer – Kevin Ludwik to Bob Albertsen's route
 - ESPN – article with quotes from Dr. Stenberg, Softball Coach
 - Roof – Elementary School
 - Survey – Deployed to parents July 1, RTL planning
 - Senate File 2310 – Learning Online, not yet passed, still in progress
 - Establishes foundation for online learning
 - Establishes Iowa eLearning Central

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- Can use this platform, or whatever we want, not required
- Requires IDOE to report all online learning by schools, aligned with Standards
- Taught by Iowa licensed teacher
- Requires schools to submit online curriculum to IDOE to review
- Offer and teach required
- Can use 36 hrs. Of collaborative hours for instructional teaching time
- If RTL plan in process, will meet hours and days requirements
- Authorizes school board to close if COVID outbreak
- Students required to participate in online learning, or truant

19. Action Item #179 - Closed Session - Superintendent Evaluation

Motion by Thompson, second by Nolte for Closed Session - Iowa Code Section 21.5(1(i) to evaluate the professional competency of an individual whose appointment, hiring, performance, or discharge is being considered when necessary to prevent needless and irreparable injury to that individual's reputation and that individual requests a closed session.

Roll Call Vote: Becker, Ludeking, Nolte, Stepanek, Thompson, Upah, and Werning.

MOTION CARRIED
ALL MEMBERS PRESENT VOTING AYE

Session Closed 8:45 P.M.

Board Moved to Open Session 9:13 P.M.

20. Action Item # 180 – Motion to Approve Salary Increase

Motion by Nolte, second by Ludeking to approve salary increase for Dr. Ewell of \$3,650.00 with a memorandum of understanding added to contract for use of school vehicle.

MOTION CARRIED
ALL MEMBERS PRESENT VOTING AYE

21. Action Item# 181 - Adjournment

Motion by Thompson, second by Nolte to adjourn meet at 9:15 p.m.

MOTION CARRIED
ALL MEMBERS PRESENT VOTING AYE