

BENNETT COMMUNITY SCHOOL  
PROCEEDINGS OF BUDGET HEARING/ISL HEARING/ AND  
REGULAR MONTHLY MEETING  
APRIL 11, 2022

The Bennett Board of Education met for a budget hearing/ISL hearing/regular monthly meeting in the staff work room of the Bennett Community School, Bennett, IA. Board Member Kaitlin Rasdon called the budget hearing, ISL hearing, and the regular meeting to order at 7:00 PM. Directors Spencer Hicks and Denice McGhee answered roll call and a quorum was declared. Director Danielle Pratt was absent. Director Greg Reynolds came late, arriving at 7:09 PM. Also present were Superintendent Lonnie Luepker, Principal Jeremiah Costello, Board Secretary Amanda Skriloff, and members of the Tipton Gold board.

The Board goals were read.

Director Hicks moved, seconded by Director McGhee to approve the agenda. Motion carried 3/0.

**Staff/Student Forum:** None

**Public Forum:** On behalf of the PILOTS, Kaitlin Rasdon reported they still have a handful of Bomber cards left and plan to sell those for \$10 each due to the approaching expiration date. Kaitlin also reported the PILOTS will be providing the teachers/staff with gifts of appreciation during teacher appreciation week.

**Superintendent's Report:** Mr. Luepker reported Bennett's bus inspection went well; last day of school will be May 19<sup>th</sup>; spring & summer reporting has started and we are getting things ready for next school year; certified contracts have been handed out and are due back by April 19<sup>th</sup>; Jeremiah and Lonnie will meet with the AEA and Department of Education in June to talk about the next steps for Bennett as a targeted school; the school will be open in May for the alumni banquet.

**Principal's Report:** Mr. Costello reported there were 14 scholarship applications submitted; the scholarship committee will be meeting soon to decide recipients; looking into doing social after the concert for the 6<sup>th</sup> graders; continue to work on coverage for staff and bus drivers; the new teachers have given great feedback on the teacher consortium we are participating in; ISASP testing is completed; Lonnie and Jeremiah attended their last session of Trevor Ragan; conditions of learning survey are coming up; working on support staff and teacher evaluations; conferences are tomorrow; for Earth day we will have an outdoor picnic, thanks to the PILOTS for helping; Kindergarten round-up will be April 26<sup>th</sup>; STREAM night will be April 28<sup>th</sup>; and May 13<sup>th</sup> will be field day activities for students and staff.

**General Business of the Board:**

8a: Director Hicks moved, seconded by Director McGhee to approve the minutes from March 14, claims totaling \$26,952.84 and March financials. Motion carried 4/0.

8b: A review was done of board policies 603.1 Basic Instruction Program through 604.6 Religion based exclusion from School Program. Director Hicks moved, seconded by Director McGhee to approve all policies as read. Motion carried 4/0.

8c: There being no audience comment with regard to the budget, Director Hicks moved, seconded by Director Reynolds to approve the FY23 budget. All Ayes. Motion carried 4/0.

8d: There being no audience comment with regard to the ISL Hearing, Director Hicks moved, seconded by Director Reynolds to approve the Instructional Support Levy. All Ayes. Motion carried 4/0.

8e: Director Reynolds moved, seconded by Director McGhee to approve the 2022-2023 school calendar. Motion carried 4/0.

8f: A discussion was held around Tipton Gold's use of the baseball facilities. No action taken.

8g: Director Reynolds moved, seconded by Director Hicks to approve the FY21 audit report. Motion carried 4/0.

8h: Director Hicks moved, seconded by Director McGhee to approve the quote from Eagle Point Solar for removal and replacement of solar panels while the roof is being replaced. Motion carried 4/0.

8i: No bids for roof replacement came in to approve.

8j: Director Reynolds moved, seconded by Director Rasdon to approve the appointment of Directors Rasdon, Hicks, and McGhee to the Siegfried Petersen Scholarship selection committee.

8k: Director McGhee move, seconded by Director Hicks to approve the insurance package for district staff. Motion carried 4/0.

8l: Director McGhee moved, seconded by Director Hicks to approve the staff retention bonus for those who did not qualify and for support staff. Motion carried 4/0.

8m: Director Hicks moved, seconded by Director McGhee to approve the updated quote from Mark Boston, due to rising material costs. Motion carried 4/0.

8n: Director Hicks moved, seconded by Director McGhee to approve the substitute janitor position. Motion carried 4/0.

**Announcements/Discussion:** A discussion was held on the return to learn plan for the 2022-23 school year and reviewing the Boards IASB work session.

**Correspondence:** None

Director Hicks moved, seconded by Director McGhee to enter into an exempt session to discuss support staff and administrative salaries, and insurance increases from 8:57 PM to 11:00 PM.

**Adjournment:** Director McGhee moved, seconded by Director Hicks to adjourn the meeting at 11:00 PM. Motion carried 4/0.