

BENNETT COMMUNITY SCHOOL
PROCEEDINGS OF REGULAR MONTHLY MEETING
SEPTEMBER 12, 2022

The Bennett Board of Education met for its regular monthly meeting on Monday, September 12, 2022 in the gymnasium of the Bennett Community School, Bennett, IA. President Danielle Pratt called the meeting to order at 7:01 PM. Directors Danielle Pratt, Denise McGhee, Greg Reynolds and Kaitlin Rasdon answered roll call and a quorum was declared. Also present were Superintendent Lonnie Luepker, Principal Jeremiah Costello, Board Secretary Amanda Skriloff, Brent Arp, John Hulick, Sharon Jamison, Jennifer Slater, Chad Giebelstein, Teresa Bjurstrom, and Tabetha Widmer.

Director Rasdon moved, seconded by Director Reynolds to approve the agenda. Motion carried 4/0.

Mr. Luepker read the Board goals.

Staff/Student Forum: None

Public Forum: Brent Arp shared his concerns about a petition he signed and how it was presented to him. He stated it was presented, not as a petition requesting for a special election to be held, but as an eligible elector running to fill a school board vacancy. Jennifer Slater shared her concerns about the reversal of the preschool scheduling decision and thought it was disheartening to hear the youngest students attending Bennett would have the largest class size. She was looking forward to a smaller class size and better quality of instruction time for her child.

Superintendent's Report: Mr. Luepker reported a risk assessment of the school is scheduled to take place on October 13th, this is necessary to receive the \$50,000 school safety funds; he met with Jason Wester and Lisa DuFour, from the Tipton police department, on the possibility of sharing a school resource officer; last year at this time Bennett CSD had 89 students enrolled and currently has 91, he's hoping the enrollment continues to grow.

Principal's Report: Mr. Costello reported the Sunshine Committee has been doing some great things around the school like staff potlucks, homecoming dress up days and activities for the students, and selling jeans day punch cards to increase their funds; the AEA has a new literacy consultant who will be working with Bennett staff; the school district received \$1,000 grant from F&B Communications and Aureon to help purchase companion books for the reading curriculum; he's been getting in the classrooms more and enjoyed being the spotlight reader in one class; he has met with Per Mar to discuss different ways to update the current camera system; LETRS training is off to a great start with the staff; Mr. Luepker and him are participating in an administration training four times this year to further develop in his principal role; the Bennett and Cal-Wheat admin team continue to meet, he finds this to be a great resource; picture day went well for students and staff; he continues to meet with concerned preschool parents; the traditional flag raising ceremony took place; PBIS standards were taught the first week of school; it's exciting to see a lot of new students attending Bennett this year and unpack your backpack night was well attended; had a great couple of back to school professional development days with the staff to kick off the start of the year, which even included a staff breakfast and guest speaker Buzz Hoffman with Real Colors training; to end the first work week back a staff BBQ was

held at Bennett park, hopefully a new tradition; Mr. Luepker and him continue to work on business surrounding the bus accident; and Bennett CSD continues to look for paraprofessionals, bus drivers and sub bus drivers.

General Business of the Board:

8a: Director Rasdon moved, seconded by Director Reynolds to approve the minutes from August 10, August 18th, August 24th, claims totaling \$34,025.91 and August financials. Motion carried 4/0.

8b: A review was done of board policy 403.1 Employee Physical Examinations through 403.11 Drug and Alcohol Testing Program. Director Reynolds moved, seconded by Director Rasdon to approve the policies as read. Motion carried 4/0.

8c: Director Rasdon moved, seconded by Director McGhee to approve the mandatory requirements as presented. Motion carried 4/0.

8d: Director Rasdon moved, seconded by Director McGhee to approve Taylor Wendel as an elementary paraprofessional. Motion carried 4/0.

8e: Director Reynolds moved, seconded by Director Rasdon to approve the salary schedule advancement for the 2022-23 school year for Stacey Hennings. Motion carried 4/0.

8f: Director Reynolds moved, seconded by Director Rasdon to approve option one of the air conditioner bid. Motion carried 4/0.

8g: Director Reynolds moved, seconded by Director Rasdon to have the Board Secretary call for a special election taking place on December 13, 2022 to fill the board vacancy. Motion carried 4/0.

8h: Director Radon moved, seconded by Director McGhee to approve the Mentoring Consortium Agreement. Motion carried 4/0.

8i: Director Reynolds moved, seconded by Director Rasdon to approve option two of the mini-split unit bid. Motion carried 4/0.

Announcements/Discussion: Mr. Luepker informed the board the insurance company declared the damaged bus a total loss and a sales representative from School Bus Sales is working on a replacement cost. A new bus would be 12-13 months out. A discussion was held on the possibility of buying the damaged bus back to use for spare parts, what that might cost, what parts could possibly still be used, and where to store those parts. A discussion was also held on the preschool survey and what kind of information the Board is interested in to help make decisions regarding the large preschool class and the preschool schedule.

Adjournment: Director Rasdon moved, seconded by Director Reynolds to adjourn the meeting at 8:03 PM. Motion carried 4/0.