

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

The Bennett Board of Education met for its regular meeting on Monday, December 12, 2022 in the cafeteria of the Bennett Community School, Bennett, IA. President Danielle Pratt called the meeting to order at 5:02 PM. Directors Kaitlin Rasdon, Greg Reynolds, and Denise McGhee answered roll call and a quorum was declared. Also present were Superintendent Lonnie Luepker, Principal Jeremiah Costello, Board Secretary Kylee Yoerger, Teresa Bjurstrom, Joe Sparks, Heather Sivia, Stacey Hennings, Juli Miller, Kait Noel, John Hulick, Sharon Jamison, Nicole Wolf, Jennifer Slater, Kevin Rasdon, Steven Yoerger, Chad Giebelstein, Kourtnay Bishop, Jessica Idlewine, Taylor Kress, Brooklyn Koranda, and Joan Semsch.

The school mission statement was read by Superintendent Lonnie Luepker.

Approval of agenda was moved by Director Reynolds and seconded by Director Rasdon. Motion carried 4/0.

**Staff/Student Forum:** New teachers Mrs. Stigers (preschool), Ms. Koranda (resource), Mrs. Noel (guidance), and Ms. Kress (3rd grade) each introduced themselves as new teachers to the school in the last year.

**Public Forum:** Joe Sparks spoke on behalf of the Cedar and Scott County Conference Board regarding the lack of attendance at meetings to discuss the use of tax money. Nicole Wolf provided information to board members from the AEA, another school district's handbook, and a community survey regarding disciplinary policies. Teresa Bjurstrom reminded everyone attending the meeting that the election is happening on 12/13/22.

**Superintendent's Report:** Mr. Luepker reported that voting for the Special Board election is 12/13/22. A canvas of votes will be finalized by 12/27/22. The board needs to install the newly elected member within 10 days of the canvas. That timeline would be before our next scheduled board meeting. Mr. Luepker is proposing the following dates: 1/3/23 or 1/4/23. 1/6/23 at the latest. Thank you to everyone who has stepped in and helped out after Ms. Teresa's car accident (Lori Sparks, Diane Covington, Tipton CSD, Olin CSD, CW CSD, and BCSD staff). At the special meeting we will need to have an exempt session to discuss Mrs. Spark's pay moving forward. Bennett meets all requirements according to the Differentiated Accountability for Special Education and is considered a tier II level of support from the AEA/DE. Mr. Luepker has also been working on the requests from Mrs. Rasdon regarding discipline from the last meeting and is communicating with her on that.

**Principal's Report:** Mr. Costello reported that the school has the following upcoming holiday events: holiday concert tonight, door decorating contest - by staff, candy grams, Santa's Workshop, family night, holiday fun day, last day of school is the 21st and is a 1pm dismissal. The preschool and k-12 desk audits are due by 12/15/22. The gym rentals have picked up and the gym is now rented most evenings. A majority of the staff will attend a CPI refresher training 12/14/22. This past week Mr. Costello attended a Leadership Network where it was nice to learn from leaders in the field and connect with other area administrators. We have attended webinars and a zoom meeting regarding E-Rate and also working with Twin States and AEA connections on possible future needs. Mr. Costello, Mrs. Yoerger, Amanda, Skriloff, and the AEA have been working together on payroll to ensure completion. LETRS training was attended by our staff

again in Wheatland. We will host Cal-Wheat and Durant on 1/3/23. Thank you to families for allowing earlier outs to accommodate these trainings. The installation of radio signal for fire alarms has taken place. The student's pie donation event was successful with 52 pies donated. We have many awesome lesson and activities happening in the classrooms right now including Sarah H. conservationist, Stem and Spark - Extensions office, Kindness activities - Morning meetings, Pen Pals, Bomber Table, Pickleball tournaments, Novel Units, Fun math activities, small group/large groups and many hands-on activities. The staff pizza party was much appreciated and it was great to celebrate the success. Our work with the AEA support continues. Mel B. and Drake have been helping with IEP meetings and reviews. Alyssia Schreador has started a trial of Read Naturally with our students and set up accounts. Some teachers did not prioritize the use of this program during November, but have since started to implement. We are looking forward to seeing data on the use of Read Naturally.

**General Business of the Board:**

8a: Director Rasdon moved, seconded by Director Reynolds to approve the minutes from November 14th and claims totaling \$16,318.53. Motion carried 4/0.

8b: Director Reynolds moved, seconded by Director McGhee to approve the Board Policy Review: 407 Licensed Personnel Termination thru 408.4 Licensed Personnel Certification. Motion carried 4/0.

8c: There are no contracts/resignations.

8d: There were no open enrollments.

8e: Director Reynolds moved, seconded by Director McGhee to approve the second reading of House File 802 and Transparency Policies as written. Motion carried 4/0.

8f: Director Rasdon moved, seconded by Director McGhee to approve the Security Camera Upgrade. Motion carried 4/0.

8g: Approve Committee Assignments:

Representative to Cedar County Conference Board -Director McGhee

Representative to Scott County Conference Board -Director Pratt

Nutrition Hearing Officer -Director Pratt

Negotiations -Entire Board

Health Insurance Committee -Entire Board

Buildings and Grounds -Director Reynolds and Director McGhee

Handbook Committee -Entire Board

8h: Director Reynolds moved, seconded by Director McGhee to approve the Equity/Affirmative Action Report. Motion carried 4/0.

**Correspondence:** None

**Announcements/Discussion:** Mr. Luepker informed the board of the following operational sharing renewal dates: 1/30/23 superintendent, 3/1/23 Buildings/grounds, 3/15/23 transportation, 3/15/223 guidance counselor.

**Adjournment:** Director Reynolds moved, seconded by Director McGhee to adjourn the meeting at 5:41PM. Motion carried 4/0.

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Board President

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Board Secretary

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Mr. Luepker and Mrs. Yoerger called for nomination for President. Dani Pratt was nominated and approved as President.

Director Pratt called for nominations for Vice President. Greg Reynolds was nominated and approved as Vice President.

Adjournment: Director McGhee moved, seconded by Director Reynolds to adjourn the meeting at 5:43PM. Motion carried 4/0.

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Board President

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Board Secretary