

TO: BENTON COMMUNITY BOARD OF EDUCATION
FROM: DR. JAMES BIESCHKE, SUPERINTENDENT
RE: REGULAR BOARD MEETING
TIME: WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 18, 2024
6:00 p.m. - Regular Meeting
PLACE: Central Office - Board room
304 1st Street
Van Horne, Iowa 52346



Regular Meeting

1. CALL TO ORDER – 6:01 pm

Directors Present: Becker, Kaiser, Nolte, Schanbacher, Shaw, Thompson, and Werning.

A Quorum was declared present.

Also present: Dr Bieschke, Anna Selk, Melisa Venneman, Rob Arnold, Ryan Junge, Phil Eastman, Jason West, Melody Spence, Curtis Spence, Garrett Spence, Steven Marsh, Jamie Stein.

2. DELEGATIONS, COMMUNICATIONS, CONSIDERATIONS OF ADDITIONAL AGENDA ITEMS - None

3. ACTION ITEM #56 - APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Motion by Kaiser, second by Werning to approve agenda as presented.

MOTION CARRIED
ALL MEMBERS PRESENT VOTING AYE

4. OPEN FORUM - None

5. BOARD APPOINTMENTS

ACTION ITEM #57 – APPOINTMENT OF BOARD MEMBER TO CONFERENCE BOARD

The Benton County Assessor is asking for a school board member to be appointed to the Conference Board. Theresa Thompson is willing to serve in this capacity.

Motion by Nolte, second by Shaw to approve Theresa Thompson as a member of the County Assessor Conference Board per their request.

MOTION CARRIED
ALL MEMBERS PRESENT VOTING AYE

ACTION ITEM #58 - ACCEPTANCE OF TREASURER'S BOND

Motion by Schanbacher, second by Kaiser to approve the \$50,000 Treasurer Bond responsibility to Melisa Venneman for the 2024-2025 school year.

MOTION CARRIED
ALL MEMBERS PRESENT VOTING AYE

ACTION ITEM #59 – APPONTMENT OF DISTRICT SCHOOL BUSINESS OFFICIAL (SBO), SCHOOL DISTRICT BOARD SECRETARY-TREASURER

Motion by Kaiser, second by Shaw that Melisa Venneman be appointed the District School Business Official (SBO) and School District Secretary-Treasurer.

MOTION CARRIED
ALL MEMBERS PRESENT VOTING AYE

Oath of Office given to Melisa Venneman by Melody Spence.

6. RECOGNITION OF RETIREE- MELODY SPENCE, SBO AND BOARD SECRETARY/TREASURER

7. ACTION ITEM #60 - EARLY GRADUATES

Students who have successfully met graduation requirements are permitted to graduate at the end of the 1st semester or the end of the 3rd quarter. If a student approved for early graduation by the board does not complete all graduation requirements they will not be permitted to graduate early.

- Blake Buhr
- Kate Gauthier
- Ethan Hines
- Wes Johnson
- Kam Kesl
- Neveah Miller
- Jack Niebes (end of quarter 3)

Motion by Nolte, second by Kaiser to approve the early graduates pending completion of graduation requirements as presented.

MOTION CARRIED
ALL MEMBERS PRESENT VOTING AYE

8. ADMINISTRATION REPORT – James Bieschke

November 2024 Administrative Report

9. ACTION ITEM #61 - AT-RISK MODIFIED SUPPLEMENTAL AMOUNT

At-Risk Dropout is to serve (K-12) students who are at risk for succeeding in school as well as at risk of dropping out. In the past, we used these funds to support counselors, therapists, Interventionists, and our SRO position contract with the sheriff's department. The total budget and allowance from the state for at-risk dropout is \$282,462. The Board will consider and act on this supplemental amount for these services for our students.

MODIFIED SUPPLEMENTAL AMOUNT

#	Description	Amount
1	District cost per pupil	\$7,856
2	Certified enrollment (October 1, current school year) Certified enrollment was found and certified on 10/15/2024 10:04:47 AM.	1,475.6
3	Maximum modified supplemental amount possible (0.025 x line 1 x line 2)	\$289,808
4	Previous FY Carry-forward from CAR Project 1116 Carry-forward: \$7,346 Project 1119 Carry-forward: \$0	\$7,346
5	Requested modified supplemental amount Enter an amount equal to, or less than (Ln3 - Ln4): \$282,462	282462
"Requested MSA and required match (and the associated spending authority) is solely for the purpose of implementing the district's board-adopted At-Risk/Dropout program."		
6	Required local match (Total Project Cost(Line 5 / 0.75) X 0.25)	\$94,154
7	Enter the number of enrolled students in the budget year identified as returning dropouts and potential dropouts.	97

Motion by Becker, second by Werning to approve the At-Risk Dropout requested modified supplemental amount of \$282,462 as presented.

MOTION CARRIED
ALL MEMBERS PRESENT VOTING AYE

10. ACTION ITEM #62 - BUSINESS SERVICES

General fund is stable with a positive fund balance. Increased costs of goods and services have seen a rise consistently in general fund expenses. Fund 33 (Sales Tax) had a major expense for our upgraded security cameras in all buildings. General HVAC repairs this month have stayed consistent with projections.

- Warrants
- Additional Warrants
- Summary of Warrants
- Financial Reports
- General Fund Report
- All Funds Report

Motion by Nolte, second by Shaw to approve the warrants, financial reports, and purchases as presented.

MOTION CARRIED
ALL MEMBERS PRESENT VOTING AYE

11. ACTION ITEM #63 - MASTER SERVICE AGREEMENT- MS/HS, KEYSTONE, NORWAY SECURE FRONT ENTRY

The master service agreement is with Shive-Hattery, Inc. to perform secure front entry work at the MS/HS, Keystone Elementary, and Norway Elementary.

Motion by Kaiser, second by Becker to approve the master service agreement with Shive-Hattery as presented.

MOTION CARRIED
ALL MEMBERS PRESENT VOTING AYE

12. ACTION ITEM #64 - MASTER SERVICE AGREEMENT- CONCESSIONS, BATHROOMS, AND STORAGE STUDY

The master service agreement is with Shive-Hattery, Inc. to create concept plans for a concession stand, bathrooms, and storage at the softball field.

Motion by Nolte, second by Kaiser to approve the master service agreement with Shive-Hattery as presented.

MOTION CARRIED
ALL MEMBERS PRESENT VOTING AYE

13. ACTION ITEM #65 - KEYLESS DOOR ENTRY AND CAMERA UPGRADES- IOWA SAFETY AND SECURITY GRANT WORK

The quotes are for keyless entry and camera upgrades at the MS/HS, Atkins Elementary, Keystone Elementary, and Norway Elementary. The bids are acceptable to Iowa bid law due to being a part of the state-wide bidding process. This will enhance safety and security in all buildings. This purchase will be funded through reimbursement from the State of Iowa Safety and Security Grant.

- Elementary Camera Quotes
- Atkins and MS/HS Door Controller/ Keyless Entry Upgrade
- Keystone Door Controller/ Keyless Entry Upgrade
- Norway Door Controller/ Keyless Entry Upgrade

Motion by Werning, second by Becker to approve the quotes for keyless door entry and camera upgrades as presented.

MOTION CARRIED
ALL MEMBERS PRESENT VOTING AYE

14. ACTION ITEM #66 - POLICY REVIEW

The following policies have been reviewed and are aligned to IASB recommendations.

Second Reading

503.8 - Discipline of Students Who Make Threats of Violence or Cause Incidents of Violence (IASB Policy)

Policy Review

502.3 - Freedom of Expression (Edits from IASB)

504.1 - Student Government (No Changes from IASB)

504.2 - Student Organizations (No Changes from IASB)

504.6 - Student Activity Program (No Changes from IASB)

504.7 - Student Social Events (No IASB Policy)

Motion by Nolte, second by Schanbacher to approve the policies and revisions as presented.

MOTION CARRIED
ALL MEMBERS PRESENT VOTING AYE

15. EXEMPT SESSION: IOWA CODE 21.9 (no action with exempt sessions)

A meeting of a Board to discuss strategy in matters relating to employment conditions of employees who are not covered by a collective bargaining agreement. I.C. 21.9

Dr. Bieschke held a strategy session with the board for the transition of the SBO contract.

Motion by Kaiser, second by Shaw to go into exempt session at 6:45 pm. Roll call vote to go into exempt session:

DIRECTOR: Kaiser – AYE, Nolte – AYE, Schanbacher – AYE, Shaw – AYE, Thompson – AYE, Werning – AYE, Becker – AYE.

Motion by Kaiser, second by Werning to come out of exempt session at 7:06 pm. Roll call vote to come out of exempt session.

DIRECTOR: Kaiser – AYE, Nolte – AYE, Schanbacher – AYE, Shaw – AYE, Thompson – AYE, Werning – AYE, Becker – AYE.

16. ACTION ITEM #67 - CONSENT AGENDA

The Consent Agenda includes common topics.

*All hires are contingent on background check, proper licensing, and release from current contract if applicable.

Hires

- Hollie Barth - Special Education Associate Atkins Elementary
- Jeff Funk – MOU Asst. 8th Boys Basketball

Resignations

- Makenzie Marovets - Food Service MS/HS
- Stephanie Martinson - Custodian Norway

Transfer

- Melisa Venneman to District School Business Official (SBO)

Meeting Minutes

- November 13, 2024

Contracts

- Midwest Alarm Addendum
- Prom DJ Contract
- Immaculate Conception Concert Agreement

Motion by Nolte, second by Kaiser to approve the Consent Agenda as presented.

MOTION CARRIED
ALL MEMBERS PRESENT VOTING AYE

17. SUPERINTENDENT REPORT

- IASB Convention Updates from Thompson, Schanbacher and Jamie Bieschke.
- Counseling Support for MS/HS for the remainder of the school year.
- Bobcat Bulletin being mailed out to all district residents.

18. ACTION ITEM #68 - ADJOURNMENT

Motion by Schanbacher, second by Kaiser to adjourn the Board Meeting at 7:31 pm.

MOTION CARRIED
ALL MEMBERS PRESENT VOTING AYE

Meeting adjourned at 7:31 pm.