

BELLEVUE COMMUNITY SCHOOLS

Regular Board Meeting
Monday, March 11, 2024

1. The meeting was called to order in the BCS Board Room at 6:30 PM by President Mike Reed.
2. Roll call was taken. Board Members present: Allysen Bonifas, Marty Ploessl, Mike Reed and Janet Sieverding; Also present: Superintendent Tom Meyer; Board of Education Secretary Abbey Skrivseth; MS/HS Principal Jeff Recker; Elementary Principal Jeanette Hartung-Schroeder; and BHS Student Representative Leo Aschenbrenner.
3. Motion by Bonifas, second by Ploessl to approve the agenda. Carried unanimous.
4. Motion by Sieverding, second by Bonifas to approve the consent agenda. Carried unanimous. The consent agenda contained:
 - a. Approve minutes of the regular School Board meeting of February 12, 2024.
 - b. Approve payment of all BCS' expenditures for supplies, equipment and services received (this excludes payroll; see attached).
 - c. Approve open enrollment request:
 - i. Grace Lensch, 11th grade, Dubuque to Bellevue, FY25
 - d. Approve resignations:
 - i. Erica Theisen: HS Spanish Instructor
 - ii. Tracey Weber: MS Reading Teacher
 - iii. Kelley Humphrey: HS Assistant Volleyball Coach
 - iv. Derek Ploeger: MSHS Custodian
 - e. Approve recommendations to hire:
 - i. Linda Lucey: Part-Time PK Associate & Food Service
 - ii. Sherene Pitts: Full-Time Associate
5. Visitors: Pete Bonifas, Melissa Fondell, Andy McKean and Tracey Till.
6. Andy McKean discussed current legislation topics related to education and informed the Board that he would be running for election again this year.
7. Comet Curriculum included a presentation by fifth grade Teacher Tracey Till and fourth grade Teacher Melissa Fondell on the new reading curriculum, Wit & Wisdom, for third through fifth grade.

[Fondell, McKean and Till left the meeting].
8. Comet Finance included an update and discussion on the proposed budget for the 2024-2025 school year.
9. Bonifas moved with a second by Ploessl to set two public hearings for the 2024-2025 budget: Property Tax Levy Hearing on Tuesday, April 2nd at 8:00am and Budget Adoption Hearing on Monday, April 8th at 6:30pm. Motion carried unanimously.
10. Sieverding moved with a second by Bonifas to approve construction contracts with contractor Tricon General Construction. Motion carried unanimously.
11. Sieverding moved with a second by Bonifas to approve the technology purchase for the 2024-2025 school year, replace three sets of Chromebooks each year for third, sixth and ninth grade students. Motion carried unanimously.
12. Athletic Director Pete Bonifas provided an update on high school and middle school athletic participation numbers and discussed the proposed sharing agreements with Maquoketa High School.

Ploessl moved with a second by Sieverding to host and share high school girls soccer with Maquoketa High School. Motion carried unanimously.

Bonifas moved with a second by Sieverding to share high school girls' softball with host Maquoketa High School. Motion carried unanimously.

[Pete Bonifas left the meeting].

13. Staff openings for the 2024-2025 school year were discussed. Due to only needing two first grade classrooms, Shannon Anderson will move to the new Elementary Special Education position with the request to have the option to move back to first grade for the 2025-2026 school year if a third classroom is needed again. Alex Wulfekuhle will move from second grade to fifth grade. Open and advertised positions include: second grade teacher, MS reading teacher, MS teacher and HS Spanish instructor. An immediate opening also exists for a MSHS Custodian.

14. Bonifas moved with a second by Ploessl to make up one day of school with the last day of school for students now being Friday, May 24 with seniors being exempt from the makeup day. Motion carried unanimously.

Teachers still needed to make up their contracted days. The Board is open to allowing other staff members the opportunity to make-up the unpaid days by working additional days after the last day of school.

15. Discussion was tabled for the 2024-2025 school year due to possible changes in legislation that could allow the first day of school to start prior to August 23.

16. It was recognized that Adam Smith is the Bellevue Masonic Lodge's Teacher of the Year.

17. Motion by Bonifas, second by Sieverding to approve the student teaching agreement with Phoenix University, the University of Northern Iowa and Morningside College for the 2024-2025 school year. Carried unanimously.

18. Information items:

- a. Legislation was previously discussed on the agenda.
- b. The school will provide ACT Testing for juniors on April 9.
- c. The Beyond the Blue event will take place on Friday May 24 with six recipients.

19. (8:50 PM) Comments were heard from the principals and superintendent on school updates.

20. Motion by Bonifas, seconded by Kilburg to adjourn at 9:12 PM. Carried unanimous. The Board will meet next in special session on Tuesday April 2, 2024 at 8:00 AM and in regular session on Monday, April 8, 2024 at 6:30 PM.



, Board President



, Board Secretary