

Unofficial

BENTON COMMUNITY SCHOOL CORPORATION
405 South Grant Avenue
Fowler, Indiana 47944

The Board of School Trustees of Benton Community School Corporation met in a WORK SESSION Monday, December 17, 2018, at the Administration Building at 6:00 p.m. to discuss the 2019 Budget and upcoming fund changes.

Board members present were:

	<u>Present</u>	<u>Absent</u>
Gabe Widmer	X	
Edward Schroeder	X	
Robert Sondgeroth	X	
Patrick Thurston	X	
Trenton Lindenman	X	

The work session adjourned at 6:58 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Brandie Burton, Recording Secretary

President

Member

Vice-President

Member

Secretary

Regular Meeting
Board of School Trustees
December 17, 2018
Administration Building

Board members present were:

	<u>Present</u>	<u>Absent</u>
Gabe Widmer	X	
Edward Schroeder	X	
Robert Sondgeroth	X	
Patrick Thurston	X	
Trenton Lindenman	X	

Also present were Superintendent Gregg Hoover, administrators, faculty, staff, and patrons.

Call to Order, Recognize Quorum

Patrick Thurston called the regular meeting to order at 7:00 p.m., and recognized a quorum. The Board, Superintendent, administrators, faculty, staff, media, and patrons stood for the pledge of allegiance and took a moment of silence. Mr. Hoover indicated there were no emergency additions to the agenda. The board approved the agenda on a motion by Edward Schroeder and a second by Robert Sondgeroth. The motion carried.

Audience to Visitors

None

Routine Matters

The board approved the minutes of the Regular Meeting of November 19, 2018 on a motion by Edward Schroeder and a second by Trenton Lindenman. The motion carried.

Tracy Albertson presented the vouchers to the board for approval. Mrs. Albertson indicated that the payroll claims were more than usual on this voucher listing because of the back pay for teachers, the teacher appreciation grant payments and the stipends paid for all employees. Mrs. Albertson asked for any questions. There being no questions Mrs. Albertson asked the board to approve the vouchers as presented. Patrick Thurston moved, seconded by Robert Sondgeroth, to approve accounts payable vouchers totaling \$1,125,098.53 and payroll and benefits vouchers of \$2,111,691.01 for a grand total of \$3,236,789.54. The motion carried.

Communications

Mr. Hoover acknowledged the following donations to the school corporation:

Benton Central

- \$1500.00 from the Fowler Amvets towards the 8th grade Washington DC Trip;
- \$300.00 from the Boswell Rotary Club to the Benton Central Interact Club;
- 1995 Dodge Van from Felix and Becky Vandever to the Automotive Technology Program.

Mr. Schroeder commented that the Amvets donation was very generous and that they do a lot for our corporation and was appreciative.

Mr. Hoover presented the new fundraiser update to the board. He indicated he would continue to keep the board informed of the fundraisers going on in the schools. No members had any questions regarding the updated information.

Brianna Weitlauf with the Little Prairie Preschool along with current and former high school students attended the board meeting and made a presentation to the school board about the program. Mrs. Weitlauf spoke to the board about the everyday happenings in the preschool and how the class worked with the high schools students teaching as well. Current and former students addressed the board as to the impact the class has had on them personally and what they enjoyed about the class and the preschool students. The board thanked them for attending and sharing about the preschool program.

Sherriff Don Munson attended the board meeting along with county commissioners Mike Freeland and Steve Cox. Sherriff Munson addressed the board regarding starting a canine program in Benton County. He indicated there had previously been a canine unit in the county but when the canine passed away they did not continue with the program. He indicated he was coming to the board to ask for their approval to fund half the cost of the initial purchase of the canine and to speak to them about having more freedom to come and go in the schools on short notice. Sheriff Munson indicated the initial cost of the canine is between \$12,000 and \$18,000. He stated the canine would be used at the schools as well as out in the community. Sherriff Munson discussed different scenarios of how the canine would be used. Mr. Schroeder inquired as to the timeline of having the program up and running. Sherriff Munson stated it could be up and running in 3 to 6 months from the purchase of the canine. Mr. Thurston stated he felt the canine for the community was a good idea and that he would like to be able to work with the commissioners. The board thanked Sherriff Munson and the commissioners for coming and presenting the program to the board.

Old Business

NONE

New Business

Mr. Hoover presented the staff report to the Board. There were no specific questions from the board regarding the staff report. Gabe Widmer moved, seconded by Trenton Lindeman to approve the following staff report as presented:

Leaves

- Paternity Leave for John Weitlauf for the 2019-2020 School Year;
- FMLA leave for Amanda Wargo from approximately December 12, 2018 through January 4, 2019;

Resignations

- Lela Winchester as a custodian at Benton Central Jr./Sr. High School effective December 12, 2018.

Employment

Corporation

- Benton Central Student in Bus Garage maximum of 10 hours per week.

Otterbein Elementary

- Taylor Ellis as a part-time aide starting immediately.

Prairie Crossing Elementary

- Casey Urick as a mentor for Bailey Geswein for the 2018-2019 school year;
- Brittany Laggett as the Elementary Academic Teacher Coach for the 2018-2019 school year;
- Bailey Geswein as Special Education Teacher effective January 7, 2018.

Motion carried.

Mr. Hoover asked the board to approve the field trip request of the Benton Central Nanoline Team to Harrisburg PA February 15, 2019 through February 17, 2019. Mr. Hoover indicated this trip was contingent on the team winning at regionals and advancing to the finals as they have done the past several years. Trenton Lindenman moved, seconded by Robert Sondgeroth to approve the field trip request of the Benton Central Nanoline Team to Harrisburg PA February 15, 2019 through February 17, 2019. Motion carried.

Mr. Hoover presented the school board policy manual pages 316-416 the Administrative Appendix and Forms Appendix for review. Mr. Hoover asked if there were any questions, comments or changes regarding this section. Mr. Hoover indicated this was the last section of the manual review and the process would start over in the next month with the beginning of the manual. Edward Schroeder moved seconded by Robert Sondgeroth to approve the review of the school board policy manual pages 316-416 the Administrative Appendix and Forms Appendix. Motion carried.

Mrs. Albertson stated she had five resolutions for the board to approve to establish the new funds and transfer approvals. She indicated they were E.3 through E.8 and asked the board if they wanted to vote individually on each resolution or take all five as one motion. The board indicated they would like to vote on all five resolutions together. Edward Schroeder moved, seconded by Gabe Widmer to approve the resolutions E.4 through E.8, Resolution to Establish Initial Funding for the Education Fund, Resolution to Establish Initial Funding for the Operations Fund, Resolution to Authorize One-Time Transfer of % of Cash Balance from Education Fund to Operations Fund, Resolution to Transfer % of Monthly Tuition Payments to Operations Fund and Resolution to Transfer from Operations Fund to Education Fund for Technology Expenses. Motion carried.

Mrs. Albertson asked the board to approve permission to perform year end transfers. She indicated this was something that was done each year and it gives her or Mr. Hoover permission to perform transfers between funds. She gave the example of a principal having overspent their supply account line but underspent their travel line; this would give her permission to move the underspent amount to the overspent line. She indicated this just zero's out the funds in the end. She stated she would provide the board with the report showing what was moved where once the transfers were completed. Patrick Thurston moved, seconded by Trenton Lindenman to give permission to perform year end transfers as requested. Motion carried.

Mr. Hoover read a letter from Alice Thurston addressed to the corporation thanking the corporation for the opportunity to help out at Prairie Crossing for the semester and for the support she received in the roll she was placed in.

Mr. Hoover thanked Patrick Thurston and Trenton Lindeman for the four years they served on the school board. He stated they would be missed and that he appreciated all they had done for the corporation. He indicated that he had plaques for the both of them to show our appreciation but they had not arrived yet.

Mr. Sondgeroth thanked Mr. Hoover and Mrs. Albertson for all the work they do. He stated he appreciated previous discussions where the percentage and flat rate raises were discussed.

The meeting adjourned at 7:53 p.m. The next regular board meeting will be held at 7:00 p.m. Monday, January 14, 2019, at the Administration Building.

Respectfully Submitted,
Brandie Burton, Recording Secretary

President

Member

Vice-President

Member

Secretary