

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 Wednesday February 10, 2020, at the Benton Central Jr./Sr. High Library at 6:00 p.m. to discuss the Budget.

Board members present were:

	<u>Present</u>	<u>Absent</u>
Gabe Widmer	X	
Edward Schroeder	X	
Robert Sondgeroth		X
Jennifer Barce	X	
Chad Tolen	X	

The work session adjourned at 6:50 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Brandie Burton, Recording Secretary

President

Member

Vice-President

Member

Secretary

Regular Meeting
 Board of School Trustees
 February 10, 2020
 Benton Central Jr./Sr. High Cafeteria

Board members present were:

	<u>Present</u>	<u>Absent</u>
Gabe Widmer	X	
Edward Schroeder	X	
Robert Sondgeroth		X
Jennifer Barce	X	
Chad Tolen	X	

Also present were administrators, faculty, staff, and patrons.

Call to Order, Recognize Quorum

President Edward Schroeder called the regular meeting to order at 7:02 p.m., and recognized a quorum. The Board, Superintendent, administrators, faculty, staff and patrons stood for the pledge of allegiance and took a moment of silence. Mr. Hoover indicated there was one emergency addition to the agenda. He stated it would be an overnight field trip for the Benton Central Girls Varsity Basketball team to LaPorte, Indiana for the Regional basketball tournament on February 14, 2020. The board approved the amended agenda on a motion by Jennifer Barce and a second by Gabe Widmer. The motion carried.

Audience to Visitors

Mr. Schroeder informed patrons of what was permitted to be spoken about during this time and that patrons would be limited to speaking for three minutes. There were two patrons who signed up to speak. Ken Sandel spoke first. He thanked the board for their efforts in regards to doing what is best for the students and schools. He also thanked the board for having him be a part of the financial planning committee and providing him and the community with all the information they asked for and needed to make an educated decision regarding the referendum. He stated that once the referendum was passed that he as well as the rest of the community would expect to be involved in the financial situation of the school corporation as much as they had been in last few months. He stated that he expected the school corporation to keep an eye on the horizon as the enrollment issues that have led to this deficit were still going to be a problem. Mr. Sandel stated that he felt that the county commissioners and businesses in the community needed to start deploying their resources by bringing businesses and opportunities into our community to help the vitality of the community. Mr. Sandel asked the board to go forward with putting the referendum on the ballot and letting the community vote and help the school corporation.

Patrick Nally spoke second. He also thanked the board for their efforts. He stated that he felt there needed to be a balance of cuts as well as taxes from a referendum. Mr. Nally stated he liked the idea of the long range planning committee and keeping the community involved with the decisions in the future on any cuts that needed to be made. He stated that Ken Sandel had been a great source of information as well as the community meetings and other members of the financial planning committee.

Routine Matters

The board approved the minutes Regular meeting of January 13, 2020, the minutes of the Board of Finance Meeting of January 27, 2020 and the minutes

of the Work Session and Executive Session of February 5, 2020 on a motion by Chad Tolen and a second by Jennifer Barce. The motion carried.

Mrs. Albertson presented the vouchers to the board for approval. She pointed out the transfer to the afterschool program to supplement what the program was short. Mrs. Albertson also pointed out the voucher to Up Time Mechanical that was for hail damage from the storms this past summer. Chad Tolen inquired as to the Mulhaupts voucher for around \$9000.00. Tracy indicated that was for the door project at Otterbein and would have to look at the office and get back with him on the specific door/doors. There being no other questions Mrs. Albertson asked the board to approve the vouchers as presented. Edward Schroeder moved, seconded by Gabe Widmer, to approve accounts payable vouchers totaling \$233,986.41 and payroll and benefits vouchers of \$1,446,920.34 for a grand total of \$1,680,906.75. The motion carried.

Communications

Mr. Hoover acknowledged the following donations:

Benton Central

- \$450.00 from Mennonite Mutual Insurance Company to Benton Central CAAP for the Family Christmas Shoe Box;
- \$500.00 from Richard & Susan Gretencord to Benton Central CAAP;
- \$1617.39 from Central Indiana Community Foundation to the Benton Central Vocational Building Trades program;
- The following donations were made in Memory of Larry D. Stoval to Benton Central FFA:
 - o \$25.00 from DR & JA Correll
 - o \$15.00 from Wayne & Judy Crumbaugh
 - o \$50.00 from Bill & Rose Moyars
 - o \$25.00 from Stuart Jones

Mr. Hoover presented the board with the updated fundraiser report. He indicated there were some new ones at Benton Central. He stated he supplies this information to the board so they are aware what our students are selling and raising funds for. Mr. Hoover pointed out that many of the fundraisers are raising funds for the groups to help others in need.

Mr. Hoover informed the board that the State had granted the waiver for the missed day at Otterbein Elementary due to the flu.

Old Business

None

New Business

Mr. Hoover presented the staff report to the board. The board having no questions, Gabe Widmer moved, seconded by Jennifer Barce to approve the following staff report as presented:

Leaves

- FMLA Leave for Kayla Brant from December 2, 2019 through February 23, 2020;
- FMLA Leave for Shawn Dolby from January 13, 2020 through March 9, 2020.

Resignations

- Trini Garcia Ribes as a Spanish Teacher at Benton Central Jr./Sr. High School effective June 30, 2020.

Terminations

- John Morris as a part time (29 hour) Special Education Aide at Benton Central Jr./Sr. High School.

EmploymentBenton Central

- Janelle Hardebeck, Diane Campagna and Stephanie Watt as Title IV Grant Coordinators;
- Ryan Gillen as a Maintenance employee effective February 24, 2020;
- Attached updated ECA positions;
- David Lytle as a student cafeteria dish room employee for 1 hour a day;
- Mary Schultz as a part time (29 hour) Special Education Aide effective immediately.

Prairie Crossing Elementary

- Brittany Laggett as Elementary Academic Coach for 2019-2020 School Year;
- Mandy Brighton as Elementary Spell Bowl Coach.

Motion carried.

Mr. Hoover presented the new IRS travel reimbursement rate of 57.5 cents per mile effective January 1, 2020 to the board for approval. Mr. Sondgeroth inquired if it had gone down. Mr. Widmer indicated that yes it had went down a half cent. Chad Tolen moved, seconded by Jennifer Barce to approve the IRS travel reimbursement rate of 57.5 cents per mile effective January 1, 2020. Motion carried.

Mr. Hoover asked the board to approve the emergency addition of the overnight field trip for the Girls Varsity Basketball team to LaPorte, Indiana on February 14, 2020. Chad Tolen moved, seconded by Edward Schroeder to approve the overnight field trip of the Girls Varsity Basketball team to LaPorte, Indiana on February 14, 2020. Motion carried.

Mr. Hoover asked the board to approve the Referendum Tax Levy Resolution to place the referendum on the May ballot with the language of 31 cents. Gabe Widmer moved, seconded by Jennifer Barce to approve the Referendum Tax Levy Resolution to put the referendum on the May ballot with the language of 31 cents. Chad Tolen voted yes. Edward Schroeder voted no. The motion passed with a vote of 3 to 1.

Mr. Schroeder asked that E.3 Review and Approval of changes to School Board Policy Manual Sections 7.1 through 7.7 be tabled and placed on the March board meeting agenda. Mr. Schroeder indicated he had not had a chance to thoroughly look through the policies. Issue was tabled.

Mrs. Albertson asked the board to approve the Year End Transfers that were in their board packet. Jennifer Barce moved, seconded by Chad Tolen to approve the Year End Transfers as presented. Motion carried.

Mr. Albertson presented the board with a list of old outstanding checks and asked that the board approve the disposition of these checks and the funds deposited back into the accounts they were drawn from. Gabe Widmer moved, seconded by Edward Schroeder to approve the Disposition of Old Outstanding Checks as presented. Motion carried.

Mr. Hoover informed the board that Benton Central had 1 wrestler advance to semi-state. He also indicated the Girls Varsity Basketball team had won sectional for the 3rd year in a row and had advanced to Regionals. Mr. Hoover also spoke about band having several students compete in the solo and ensemble contest and receive golds and advance to state. Mr. Hoover thanked the board and community for their continued efforts in finding a suitable solution for our students, staff and community as a whole. Mr. Hoover gave his condolences to Mr. Atha's family and stated the decision to close school for the funeral service on Tuesday had been made. He indicated he would be asking the state for a waiver for this missed day.

Jennifer Barce thanked the community for their involvement over the last few months. She appreciated all the feedback and participation from and in the community meetings. She stated she looked forward to continuing working with the community to come up with the best solution for our students.

The meeting adjourned at 7:25 p.m. The next regular board meeting will be held at 7:00 p.m. Monday, March 16, 2020, at the Administration Office.

Respectfully Submitted,
Brandie Burton, Recording Secretary

President

Member

Vice-President

Member

Secretary