

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 BUDGET WORK SESSION Monday, January 15, 2018, at the Administration Building at 6:30 p.m. "To Discuss the 2018 Budget."

No other subject matter was discussed or voted on.

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 7:08 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Brandie Burton, Recording Secretary

President

Member

Vice-President

Member

Secretary

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

Regular Meeting
 Board of School Trustees
 December 18, 2017
 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

Gabe Widmer called the regular meeting to order at 7:11 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 but that he would be removing C.1 Recognition of Benton Central State & National Beef Judging Teams as they were not present due to the weather. The board approved the agenda on a motion by Edward Schroeder and a second by Robert Sondgeroth. The motion carried.

Election of Board of Trustee Officers for 2018

Mr. Hoover asked for nominations of persons for the 2018 Board President. Gabe Widmer nominated Patrick Thurston for 2018 Board President which was seconded by Trenton Lindenman. Mr. Hoover asked if there were any other nominations. There being no other nominations for Board President, Patrick Thurston was elected Board President on a motion by Gabe Widmer and a second by Trenton Lindenman. Motion carried. Mr. Hoover then handed the meeting over to Patrick Thurston.

Mr. Thurston asked for nominations of persons for the 2018 Board Vice President. Edward Schroeder nominated Gabe Widmer for 2018 Board Vice President which was seconded by Robert Sondgeroth. Mr. Thurston asked if there were any other nominations. There being no other nominations for Board Vice President, Gabe Widmer was elected Board Vice President on a motion by Edward Schroeder and a second by Robert Sondgeroth. Motion carried.

Mr. Thurston asked for nominations of persons for the 2018 Board Secretary. Gabe Widmer nominated Trenton Lindenman for 2018 Board Secretary which was seconded by Edward Schroeder. Mr. Thurston asked if there were any other nominations. There being no other nominations for Board Secretary, Trenton Lindenman was elected Board Secretary on a motion by Gabe Widmer and a second by Edward Schroeder. Motion carried.

Edward Schroeder moved, seconded by Gabe Widmer to appoint Patrick Thurston and Trenton Lindenman to the Board of Finance. Motion carried. Edward

Schroeder moved, seconded by Trenton Lindenman to appoint Robert Sondgeroth as the Legislative Liaison to Indiana School Boards Association. Motion carried

Audience to Visitors

None

Routine Matters

The board approved the minutes of the Regular Meeting of December 18, 2017 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 and asked for any questions. Mr. Sondgeroth questioned the bill from Waber Yard Works for Fertilizing. Mrs. Albertson indicated that was to fertilize all the athletic fields. She indicated that once the spreader that was discussed during the budget work session was purchased we would be able to do that ourselves and not have to pay outside vendors for the service. Mr. Sondgeroth inquired when the fertilizing was completed. Mrs. Albertson indicated she did not know but assumed it was in the late fall. The board having no other questions, Mrs. Albertson asked the board to approve the vouchers as presented. Gabe Widmer moved, seconded by Robert Sondgeroth, to approve accounts payable vouchers totaling \$1,763,337.53 and payroll and benefits vouchers of \$1,542,739.66 for a grand total of \$3,303,077.19. The motion carried.

Mrs. Albertson indicated she had nothing to add to the financial reports other than what was discussed during the Budget Work Session earlier.

Communications

Mr. Hoover once again indicated they were removing C.1 and informed the board that the group would be presenting at the February board meeting.

Mr. Hoover gave a brief update on the construction project. He informed the board the band got all moved in over Winter Break and showed a picture of the first practices in the new wing. He indicated he would keep the board up to date on the progress of the auditorium and old band area projects.

Mr. Hoover presented the board with the annual conflict to interest disclosure statement and memo that is required to be sent out to employees each year. Mr. Thurston inquired about the requirements of who should fill the paperwork out. Ms. Burton indicated they had gotten clarification from Mr. Barce and he had indicated that just because two family members work for the corporation does not make the need to fill out the form. The form is to be used when an employee of ours has a relative from an outside entity that will be receiving financial gain from the school corporation for services.

Mr. Hoover reminded the board that the February 19, 2018 flex day would now be an in session school day to make up for the missed day of January 5, 2018. He also indicated that the April 13, 2018 flex day would now be an in session school day to make up for the missed day of January 12, 2018. Mr. Hoover stated that the day missed on January 15, 2018 was the first e-learning day used for the students. Mr. Thurston questioned the policy and if it was 5 total e-learning days available and that no more than 2 could be used in a row. Mr. Hoover indicated that was the policy on e-learning days.

Old Business

None

New Business

Mr. Hoover presented the staff report to the Board. Mr. Sondgeroth inquired when Mr. Hoover and or central office was made of aware of the persons selected for positions. Mr. Hoover indicated they come up throughout the month prior to board meetings and then they are added to the staff report for the board meeting. Mr. Sondgeroth indicated he has been approached before and knew nothing about who was chosen for positions. Trenton Lindenman moved, seconded by Robert Sondgeroth to approve the following staff report as presented:

Resignations

- Ashley Hopkins as a classroom aide effective January 12, 2018.

EmploymentBenton Central

- Temporary transfer of Nicole Kingery from her special education aide position to a long-term substitute teacher covering for Sue Dickman during her FMLA leave;
- Updated ECA listing (see attached).

Motion carried.

Mr. Hoover asked the board to approve the field trip requests as presented. He indicated that the trip request was for the Engineering and Design teams to Harrisburg, PA for the Nanoline Nationals Contest. He indicated they would only be going if they advanced past regionals but that they needed to get it board approved so they can make their plans as soon as they have competed and know if they are advancing. Mr. Hoover indicated they have had teams advance to the nationals for the last several years. Edward Schroeder moved, seconded Trenton Lindenman to approve the field trip request of The Benton Central Engineering Design & Development students to Harrisburg, PA for the Nanoline National Contest on February 16-18, 2018 should they qualify and advance. Motion carried.

Mr. Hoover asked the board to approve the 2018 IRS travel reimbursement rate of .545 cents effective January 1, 2018. Trenton Lindenman moved seconded by Edward Schroeder to approve the IRS travel reimbursement rate of .545 cents effective January 1, 2018. Motion carried

Mr. Hoover presented Sections 6.0-6.12 pages 187-199 of the board policy manual as well as policy 6.13 that was added after the board manual was redone and put together. Mr. Hoover indicated that the RIF policy of 6.9 had been redone by the board already and policy 6.13 Social Media Policy was adopted by the board as well in July 2016. Mr. Hoover indicated there were no changes to the policies. The board had discussions on policy number 6.12 and the definition of academic freedom and wanting to clarify what that gives the teachers the right to teach, etc. Mr. Hoover indicated the board can always revisit a policy at any time. Mr. Schroeder indicated he would like to revisit this policy again. Mr. Hoover further indicated he had forwarded grammatical changes from previous sections that had been reviewed that Mr. Sondgeroth had discovered. Edward Schroeder moved seconded by Gabe Widmer to approve the review and changes of the sections 6.0-6.12 pages 187-199 and policy 6.13 as well as approve the grammatical corrections presented to the previously

reviewed policy manual sections. Motion carried.

Mr. Schroeder inquired as to the procedure and policy of suspending students for fighting. He questioned whether it was investigated or if all parties involved in a fight were automatically suspended. Mr. Hoover indicated that the administrators do an excellent job of investigating the situations and deciding the consequences and that no, it is not a one size fits all punishment. Mr. Sondgeroth inquired if students who are suspended are allowed to make up their school work missed or if they receive zeros and lowered grades. He indicated he thought we were required to allow them to make up the missed work. Mr. Hoover indicated he would have to look into the matter and would let board know any information he could find out.

Mr. Hoover indicated that it had been a trying last two weeks dealing with the weather and school delays and cancellations. He indicated there are many factors that go into making a decision of delay and/or cancellations and he appreciates their support in the decisions made.

The meeting adjourned at 7:47 p.m. The next regular board meeting will be held at 7:00 p.m. Monday, February 12, 2018, at the Administration Building.

Respectfully Submitted,

Brandie Burton, Recording Secretary

President

Member

Vice-President

Member

Secretary

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

The Board of School Trustees of Benton Community School Corporation met in an EXECUTIVE SESSION Monday, January 15, 2018, at the Administration Building at 8:00 p.m. "To discuss job performance evaluations of individual employees."

No other subject matter was discussed or voted on.

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 executive session adjourned at 8:45p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Brandie Burton, Recording Secretary

President

Member

Vice-President

Member

Secretary