

BLAIR-TAYLOR DISTRICT

REGULAR BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING MINUTES

MONDAY, JANUARY 20TH - 5:30 P.M.

President Troy Tenneson called the regular Board of Education meeting to order at 5:30 p.m. Board members present: Sarah Staff, Michele Steien, David Thompson, Troy Tenneson, Neil Kniseley and Perry Kujak. Absent: Blaine Koxlien. Also present: Lynn Halverson, Beth Lisowski, Melissa Pientok, Becky Brouillet, Jared McCutchen and Gwen Kidd. Meeting was also live streamed on Wildcat tv.

The Pledge of Allegiance recited.

Mission statement - "To educate all learners to reach their potential as productive citizens" read aloud.

Motion by S. Staff, with a second by N. Kniseley, to approve the agenda. Motion carried.

With no public comment we will move forward.

Motion by D. Thompson, with second by M. Steien, to approve December 2024 regular and closed meeting minutes. Motion carried.

Motion by N. Kniseley, with second by S. Staff, to approve bills for the month of December 2024. Motion carried by roll call vote 6-0.

Motion by P. Kujak, with second by M. Steien, to approve the December 2024 financial statement. Motion carried by roll call vote 6-0.

Reports:

Superintendent - Lynn Halverson - Mr. Halverson mentioned to the board he will be asking for updated bids for sealing all of the parking lot. He plans to have them collected for board review by the February or March board meeting. He also stated that Sarah Staff and himself will be attending the State School Board Conference in Milwaukee this week Wednesday through Thursday.

MS/HS Principal - Beth Lisowski - Mrs. Lisowski updated the board, we are halfway through the second trimester. This week we will have parent/teacher conferences. Last week Mrs. Pientok and Mrs. Lisowski met with the other co-op schools to discuss what their class schedules look like for next year. Now that we all know what is being offered, we can start scheduling for next year. Friday will be our teacher inservice. We will start working on scheduling and discuss AI. Also during inservice, Jared Bechel, our athletic trainer will be demonstrating how to tape ankles.

MS/HS Assistant Principal - Melissa Pientok - Mrs. Pientok reported to the board that in November/December we took the Renaissance Fundamentals mental health screener in grades 7 - 9. She shared that we received the results and discussed where a few students were scoring low or feeling a little insecure about themselves. We are working on a plan to meet with those students. Our Middle school has completed our second star testing to measure academic growth. Preliminary data shows we have had good growth. Some MS teachers have been using Khanmigo which is an AI tutor bot. Which helps students right away and are excited to see how it helps with academic growth. We have some fun activities planned with a snowfest

before break and a trip to Bruce Mound in February. MS girls basketball and MS wrestling are in full swing.

Elementary Principal - Jared McCutchen - Mr. McCutchen updated the board that the elementary is in the middle of our Act 20 screening window. Students scoring under 25% will receive an individual reading program. Then for the next 10-12 weeks teachers will continue to monitor their progress. A huge thank you to Mr. Nelson and Mrs. Robinson for taking on and rolling out this huge ACT 20 project. We started our CARE room with Ms. Koxlien and Mrs. Anderson monitoring. CARE stands for Calming and Repairing Environment. This assists students with self regulation. Report cards will be going home this week. Staff will be here Friday for inservice.

Special Ed Director - Becky Brouillet - Ms. Brouillet reported Child Development Days will take place at the end of February. In the high school ID program the Jackie's Blue Cup Coffee Cart will be starting this week. They will be selling coffee to staff to begin with and maybe selling treats as well. Within the same program Mrs. Frederixon currently has two students working in the community.

Discussion Items:

Mr. Halverson discussed the first copy of the 2025-2026 school year calendar. Similar to last year we will have school on Monday & Tuesday the week of Thanksgiving. Also, the same during Christmas break to incorporate a few snow days. By doing so we hope the last day of school will be June 3rd. Mr. Halverson has shared the proposed calendar to staff for any comments or concerns. He will plan to bring it back as an action item with any more comments he receives from the staff.

Action Items:

Motion by M. Steien, with a second by S. Staff, to approve to cap the special education open enrollment for students into the District for the 2025-26 school year due to lack of openings with current staffing. And not place a cap on open enrollment for regular education students for the 2025-26 school year. Motion carried.

Motion by D. Thompson, with a second by N. Kniseley to approve - Policy Updates as presented second reading. Motion carried.

Motion by N. Kniseley, with a second by S. Staff, to approve - Child Care Center Teacher Assistant - Dana Wolfe. Motion carried by roll call vote, 6-0.

Motion by D. Thompson, with a second by M. Steien, to move to closed session in accordance with State Statute 19.85(1)(c) to discuss individual administrative position contracts/evaluations, individual students' success, and staffing for 2025-26.

Motion by P. Kujak, with a second by N. Kniseley to adjourn. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,



David Thompson, Clerk