

**BLAIR-TAYLOR SCHOOL DISTRICT
REGULAR BOARD OF EDUCATION
MEETING MINUTES**

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 20 – 5:30 P.M

President Troy Tenneson called the regular Board of Education meeting to order at 5:30 p.m. Board members present: Troy Tenneson, Perry Kujak, David Thompson, Michele Steien, Neil Kniseley, Sarah Staff, and Blaine Koxlien. Also present: Lynn Halverson, Beth Lisowski, Katie Belitz, and Andrew Scheller. Absent: Dana Eide. Meeting also live-streamed on Wildcat TV.

The Pledge of Allegiance recited.

Motion by S. Staff, with a second by M. Steien, to approve the agenda. Motion carried.

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

There was no public comment at this time.

Motion by D. Thompson, with a second by N. Kniseley, to approve the January 2023 regular, special, and closed meeting minutes. Motion carried by roll call vote, 7-0.

Motion by D. Thompson, with a second by N. Kniseley, to approve the bills for the month of January. Motion carried by roll call vote, 7-0.

Motion by M. Steien, with a second by S. Staff, to approve the January financial statement. Motion carried by roll call vote, 7-0.

Administrative Reports:

Superintendent-Lynn Halverson- Mr. Halverson reported the TVC 2.0 Governing board met on February 8th. Topics of discussion were:

- Current staff and realities. Discussed possible retirements & the impact of the shortage of applicants.
- Political environment in public education. Governor Evers came out with his proposal for the biennial budget for 23-25. It looks promising but we will not know until hopefully July but looking more like September.
- Maintaining and increasing student opportunities - Discussed travel for consortium classes. Does it make sense for the staff to travel or to continue to have the students travel. We as a coop are looking to try to share more equitably.
- Consistency between the districts moving forward. Blair-Taylor and Whitehall need

26 credits to graduate, Arcadia is 25, and Independence is at 28. Currently, of our 4 districts we are using 2 different student management systems. This creates some difficulty with grading.

- Grants and grant writing. The coop would like to consider hiring a grant writer to work for the consortium to find funding any way we can.

MS/HS Principal-Dana Eide- Mrs. Eide was unable to attend so Mr. Halverson reported in her absence. He reported that February is Career and Technical Education month. We are very fortunate to have a strong CTE program within Blair-Taylor and our coop. Thank you Mrs. Perry, Mrs. Gill, Ms. Monson and Mr. Scheller for all your hard work.

The middle/high school has been extremely busy including a band concert today at 6:30, and it is tournament time for our winter sports. We are proud to report that Jackson Shramek will be wrestling at the WIAA State tournament. His round will begin at 7:00 p.m. Thursday night. Our lady Wildcat basketball team will host a regional game Friday night at 7:00, and with a win, we will host again Saturday night at 7:00 p.m. Our boys basketball team will play their first regional game in Colfax next Tuesday at 7:00 p.m. Best of luck to all of our musical performers and athletes.

This week is the last week of Trimester 2. We look forward to wrapping up this trimester and starting on the last trimester of the year following spring break.

Elementary Principal-Beth Lisowski- Mrs. Lisowski reported we had the first part of parent teacher conferences on Thursday, February 16th, the second will be February 21st. February 6th we started our before school care, with about 5-10 students attending. March 6th will begin our after school program which will be 3:00 - 5:00 Monday -Thursday. So far we have 35 students signed up. Our before and after school program is free of charge. Summer school will work a little differently than it has been in the past. We will have school 2 days a week for 6 weeks. Registration will be sent home in April.

Special Ed Director-Katie Belitz- Child Development Days took place the first Thursday and Friday in February. We had 28 children visit and were screened. We will have 4K registration later this school year.

Discussion Items:

Operational Referendum update- Mr. Halverson presented the referendum presentation given to the Blair-Taylor staff and the Town of Curran. Other municipality and community meetings have been scheduled as:

Town of Arcadia, February 22nd
Town of Pigeon, March 1st
City of Blair, March 6th
Town of Franklin, March 8th

Village of Taylor, March 13th
Town of Preson, March 13th
Town of Ettrick, March 13th
Town of Albion, March 14th

BT Auditorium, March 15th
Taylor Community Center, March 21st

BT Auditorium, March 26th.

Cellular Broadband Expansion Grant for Jackson County - Mr. Halverson was approached to consider contributing to a broadband expansion opportunity. Similar to the previous grant proposal from the Town of Curran last year (which was NOT granted), there is another grant opportunity for the expansion of internet services that impact Taylor. Blair-Taylor agreed to \$6,271 of matching funds with the Town of Curran proposal which was based on the number of Blair-Taylor students this would benefit. The board asked Mr. Halverson to present Town of Springfield student numbers at the next meeting.

Action Items:

Motion by D. Thompson, with a second by S. Staff, to approve the Achievement Gap Reduction report. Motion carried.

Motion by N. Kniseley, with a second by M. Steien, to approve the 2023-2024 CESA 10 service contract in the amount of \$20,425.00. Motion carried by roll call vote, 7-0.

Motion by D. Thompson, with a second by P. Kujak, to approve Tasha Becker as middle school track coach. Motion carried by roll call vote, 7-0.

Motion by D. Thompson, with a second by N. Kniseley, to move to closed session in accordance with State Statute 19.85(1)(c)(f), to discuss student early graduation, individual student education plan, and employee evaluation. Motion carried.

With no action taken during closed session, a motion by S. Staff, with a second by B.Koxlien to adjourn the meeting.

Respectfully submitted,



David Thompson, Clerk

