

BLAIR-TAYLOR SCHOOL DISTRICT
REGULAR BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING MINUTES

MONDAY, DECEMBER 19th – 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, Sarah Staff, David Thompson, Blaine Koxlien, Michele Steien, Perry Kujak and Neil Kniseley. Also present: Lynn Halverson, Dana Eide, Beth Lisowski and Katie Belitz. Meeting also live-streamed on Wildcat TV.

The Pledge of Allegiance recited.

Motion by M. Steien, with second by D. Thompson 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.

Motion by P. Kujak, with a second by S. Staff, to approve minutes of the November 2022 regular and closed meetings. Motion carried.

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

Motion by M. Steien, with a second by S. Staff, to approve financial statements for November. Motion carried by roll call vote, 7-0.

Administrative reports:

Superintendent - Lynn Halverson - Mr. Halverson stated we are at the beginning stages of compiling information for the district strategic plan. Currently, Big River Group is assisting with this process. A survey was available to all staff and community members to voice their input on what the district is doing well, and what could be improved. Preliminary results were presented however, the survey is open until December 30th.

Mr. Halverson stated the IT services switch from Chestnut Consulting to shared IT services with Whitehall School District has been successful. Mr. Halverson shared some of the updates and the timeline which will be completed.

Congratulations to Blaine Koxlien who has been serving on the board for 20 years. A recognition plaque will be presented at the next month's meeting.

Elementary Principal - Beth Lisowski - Ms. Lisowski applied for & received a \$300,000 Out of School Time grant. This grant is to be used to support our students before and after school for the remainder of this year & next school year.

Middle/High Principal - Dana Eide - Mrs. Eide updated the board of the MS/HS trimester goals being attendance, passing grades, and behavior referrals. During the first trimester, the MS met

their grade goal of 90% or more students with passing grades. High school met their behavior goal of a weekly average of 95% or more students without a behavior referral. There is a holiday choir concert today, December 19th and a handbell concert on December 21st. The middle school boys basketball team is wrapping up their season this year. Middle school girls basketball will begin after the holiday break.

Special Ed. Director - Katie Belitz - Ms. Belitz reported with the Blair-Taylor community, Project Christmas has been able to support 133 students which increased from 83 students last year. Altogether 47 families were supported by 18 community sponsors. The student services team would like to extend a huge thank you to all the community sponsors for your support!

Discussion Items:

Mural Proposal - Juan Lopez, Signe, and Evelyn Swenson proposed an idea of painting a mural to spread awareness of diversity. The three of them have come up with a rough draft and will continue to work on finalizing a design. They would like to start after the Christmas holiday break.

Blair-Taylor Ice Fishing Team - Mr. Scheller presented the idea of starting an Ice Fishing team for our Blair-Taylor students. Many area districts also also participate and follow WIFA (Wisconsin Fishing Association) Currently, he has 12 people interested.

Instructional Coach Update - Mrs. Swenson gave a presentation on what an Instructional coach is and how it is working with our district.

Operational Referendum Discussion - Mr. Halverson presented three primary purposes to move forward with discussion of an operational referendum. The rebuilding of the district's fund balance, attracting and retaining staff, and maintaining our facility and our current programming. With federal funding via ESSER going away at the conclusion of the 2023-24 school year and operating in the "red" for the past two years, we will have to use operating budget dollars to fund programs that are currently funded by ESSER and not go further into the fund balance.

Action Items:

Motion by N. Kniseley, with a second by D. Thompson, to approve the purchase of new scoreboards for the elementary gym from BSN. Motion carried by roll call vote, 7-0.

Motion by S. Staff, with a second by P. Kujak, to approve technology education equipment. Motion carried by roll call vote, 7-0.

Motion by D. Thompson, with a second by N. Kniseley to approve the consent agenda items, which include, hiring Nate Becker as assistant HS track coach, resignation of Jennifer Lien as head MS track coach, hiring Jennifer Lien as assistant HS track coach, hiring Kyle Peterson as MS wrestling coach, and Kristen Fletcher as an elementary paraprofessional.

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 student behaviors, early graduation and staff compensation.

Motion by D. Thompson, with a second by M. Steien, to reconvene in open session. Motion carried.

Motion by M. Steien, with a second by S. Staff, to approve a student request for early graduation due to special circumstances. Motion carried.

Motion by S. Staff, with a second by B. Koxlien, to adjourn. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "David Thompson".

David Thompson, Clerk

