

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR SCHOOL BOARD MEETING
BEMIDJI AREA SCHOOLS
DECEMBER 16, 2024**

The regular meeting of the Board of Education, Bemidji Area Schools, Bemidji, Beltrami/Hubbard Counties, Minnesota, was held on Monday, December 16, 2024, at 6:30 p.m., in the District Office Board Room with Justin Hoover joining remotely from 1001 Beaver Creek Commons Dr. Apex, NC 27502.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Jenny Frenzel, Justin Hoover, Anna Manecke, Julie Laitala, Ann Long Voelkner, and Superintendent Jeremy Olson

Mckenzie Edevold – Student Representative

MEMBERS ABSENT: Dave Wall

CALL TO ORDER: (Time: 6:30 p.m.)

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

The motion was offered by Ann Long Voelkner, seconded by Anna Manecke, and carried by all in attendance to approve the agenda.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

There were no public participants.

REQUEST TO REMOVE TOPIC(S) FROM THE CONSENT AGENDA

CONSENT AGENDA

The motion was offered by Anna Manecke, seconded by Ann Long Voelkner, and carried by all in attendance to approve the following items:

- A. Minutes from the November 15, 2024 and November 18, 2024 Meetings
- B. Current Bills and Special Checks Totaling \$3,505,388.76
- C. Teacher Seniority List
- D. Non-Certified Staff Resignations
- E. Request for Extended Leave – Teresa Weidenborner
- F. Resignation of Administrative Staff Member – Troy Hendricks
- G. Second Reading and Adoption of SBR 500-10-1: Student Transportation Safety Policy MSBA 709
- H. Second Reading and Adoption of SBR 500-20-1: Expense Reimbursement MSBA 412
- I. Second Reading and Adoption of SBR 500-30-1: Reimbursement of Parents for Travel Relating to Disabled Students Placed in another School District
- J. Second Reading and Adoption of SBR 500-40-1: Extracurricular Transportation MSBA 710
- K. Second Reading and Adoption of SBR 400-90-11: Credit for Learning MSBA 620

SPECIAL TOPICS

Annual Audit Presentation by Brian Opsahl, CPA for Brady Martz & Associates, P.C.

Brian Opsahl, CPA for Brady Martz & Associates, P.C. presented the results of the audit.

STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE REPORTS

Mckenzie Edevold spoke about e learning days to be two hour late starts.

LISTENING SESSION REVIEW

There were no participants in the listening session.

ACTION ITEMS

2023-2024 Audit Approval

The motion was offered by Ann Long Voelkner seconded by Julie Laitala, and the vote was 5-0 to approve the FY 2023-204 annual audit as presented.

2024 Payable 2025 Levy Limit Certification

The Truth in Taxation meeting was held at 6:00 p.m. on December 16, 2024.

The motion was offered by Anna Manecke, seconded by Julie Laitala and carried by all in attendance to approve the 2024 Pay 2025 Levy Limit at the 11,005,369.

Potential Reductions in Programs and Positions

Ann Long Voelkner introduced the following resolution and moved its adoption:
RESOLUTION DIRECTING THE ADMINISTRATION TO MAKE RECOMMENDATIONS FOR REDUCTIONS IN PROGRAMS AND POSITIONS AND REASONS THEREFORE

WHEREAS, the financial condition of the school district may dictate that the School Board must consider a possible reduction in expenditures, and
WHEREAS, shifts in elementary and secondary student participation might cause discontinuance of positions and/or curtailment of programs, and
WHEREAS, a determination must be made concerning which teachers' contracts must be terminated and not renewed, and which teachers may be placed on unrequested leave of absence without pay or fringe benefits;
BE IT RESOLVED, by the School Board of Independent School District No. 31: That the School Board hereby directs the Superintendent of Schools and administration to consider the discontinuance of programs or positions to effectuate economies in the school district and reduce expenditures; and make recommendations to the School Board for discontinuance of programs, curtailment of programs, discontinuance of positions or curtailment of positions.

The motion for the adoption of the foregoing resolution was duly seconded by Justin Hoover and a tabulation of votes is as follows:

AYES: Anna Manecke, Julie Laitala, Justin Hoover and Jenny Frenzel

NOES: None

ABSENT: Dave Wall

WHEREUPON, said resolution was declared duly passed and adopted.

Request for Licensed Staff

The motion was offered by Anna Manecke, seconded by Julie Laitala, and carried by all in attendance to add a 1.0 FTE early childhood special education teacher effective when early childhood special education enrollment exceeds current staff to student ratio mandates.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Next School Board Meeting, January 27, 2024, 6:30 PM, District Office Board Room

OTHER

Recognize Fall State Participants

The fall state participants were listed.

Superintendent's Report

Superintendent Olson shared information about the district.

Presentation of Bells

Bells were presented to outgoing School Board Members Julie Laitala and Justin Hoover.

ADJOURNMENT

The motion was offered by Julie Laitala, seconded by Justin Hoover, and carried by all in attendance to adjourn the meeting. Time: 7:16 p.m.

Jenny Frenzel, Clerk

Date Approved

Dave Wall, Chair

Date Approved