

**Minutes of Regular
ISD 877 Board of Education
Buffalo-Hanover-Montrose Schools**
Tuesday, May 28, 2019
Board Room, 214 1st Avenue NE, Buffalo
7:00 PM

1. CALL TO ORDER by Chair Dave Wilson at 7:00 p.m. AND ROLL CALL
Present: Ken Ogden, Melissa Brings, Sue Lee, Laurie Raymond, Amanda Reineck, Bob Sansevere
Absent: none
2. PRELIMINARY ACTIONS
 - A. Pledge of Allegiance
 - B. Public Comment –
Leota Bemis – 2001 Buffalo Ridge Dr., Buffalo – would like a survey. Wondering why the last levy did not pass last fall. People didn't understand information, i.e., \$1000 per student is this what each taxpayer pays? Need to write information more simply for understanding. Has 2 children and feels there is a lack of communication with the schools.
 - C. Approval of Agenda
Brings/Raymond to approve
Motion carried 7-0
3. COMMUNICATIONS
 - A. Student Council Update, Jack Leipholtz, Student Representative
Applebees fundraiser raised \$239. This Friday is Bison Field Day with activities and yearbook distribution. Elle Kaiser is the student rep for next year.
 - B. Proud Of
 1. Lucy Lefebvre, 6th Grade Student at BCMS, who is the BHM Spelling Bee Winner. Runner Up is Alex Tupper, 8th Grader at BCMS.
 2. DES Students who participated in the Kids Heart Challenge and raised \$12,962.00 for the American Heart Association.
 3. Jenny Boldt's HES 4th Grade Class, who each had a poem selected to be published in "A Celebration of Poets" by Creative Communication. HES is listed as a Fall, 2018 Poetic Achievement Honor School for Excellence in Language Arts.

4. BHS Cast and Crew of "Frog and Toad" who earned a performance at the Hennepin Theatre Showcase. The production earned "Outstanding" ratings in Overall Production, Acting Performance by an Ensemble, Technical Crew, Overall Technical Team, Light & Sound Board Operators, Leading Role - Emilee Feldman as Toad, and Technical Leadership - Maddie Carlson as Set Designer and Jackson Upham as Lighting Designer.
5. Melanie Olson, PES Quest Teacher, who was named the 2019 WEM Outstanding Educator for Teacher Achievement.
6. Scott Rabehl, BHS Instrumental Music Teacher, who was named the 2019 Schmitt Music High School Educator of the Year.
7. Matt Lubben, BCMS Principal, who was named the Central MN Association of Secondary School Principals, Central Division Principal of the Year.
8. Jack Leipholtz, who served as the 2018-19 Student Representative to the Board of Education

C. Board Calendar Dates

1. Tuesday, June 4, 2019 7:00 p.m. ABE Graduation DES AUD
2. Wednesday, June 5, 2019 1:00 p.m. PRIDE Graduation
3. Thursday, June 6, 2019 7:00 p.m. PLC Graduation PAC
4. Friday, June 7, 2019 7:00 p.m. BHS Graduation BHS Gym
5. Monday, June 10, 2019 Board Workshop 4:30 p.m. Board Room
6. Monday, June 24, 2019 Board Meeting 7:00 p.m. Board Room

4. CONSENT AGENDA

A. Personnel

APPOINTMENT – All appointments are contingent upon satisfactory completion of a criminal background check. Approve the following appointments:

1. Erin Boettcher, ELD Teacher at Hanover Elementary and Montrose Elementary STEAM School of Innovation, effective August 19, 2019.
2. Taylor Peterson, Special Education Teacher at Buffalo High School, effective August 19, 2019, pending gaining appropriate licensure.
3. Kevin Funk, 2nd Shift Custodian at Buffalo Community Middle School, effective May 13, 2019. This is a replacement for Guy Vaughn.
4. Shelley Fadden, BHS Marching Band ESP, effective May 10, 2019 and ending August 18, 2019.
5. Katilynne Jarmon, substitute BHS Marching Band ESP, effective May 10, 2019 and ending August 18, 2019.
6. Nico Shilson, KidKare Aide, effective April 17, 2019.
7. Megan Hedrington, Special Education Teacher at Buffalo High School, effective August 19, 2019. This is a replacement for Jim West.

8. Gina Pogue, .847 FTE Physical Education Teacher at Parkside Elementary, effective August 19, 2019. This is a replacement for Marci Wills.
9. Christopher Conway, Special Education Teacher at Northwinds Elementary, effective August 19, 2019. This is a replacement for Kimberly Lombardi.

RESIGNATION/RETIREMENT/TERMINATION – Approve the following resignation/retirement/termination:

1. Steve McManus, Grounds/Maintenance at Buffalo Community Middle School, retirement effective July 31, 2019.
2. Janice Rasset, ESP and KidKare Supervisor at Montrose Elementary STEAM School of Innovation, retirement effective June 6, 2019.
3. Jacqueline Hillstrom, Social Studies Teacher at Buffalo Community Middle School, resignation effective June 7, 2019.
4. Rachel Watkins, 7th Grade Math Teacher at Buffalo Community Middle School, resignation effective June 7, 2019.
5. Heather Strand, 5th Grade Teacher at Parkside Elementary, resignation effective June 7, 2019.
6. Samantha Nissen, Special Education Teacher at Discovery Elementary, resignation effective June 7, 2019.
7. Lea Dobbs, Special Education Teacher at Tatanka Elementary, resignation effective June 7, 2019.
8. Jamie-Sue Peterson, School Social Worker at Parkside Elementary, resignation effective June 7, 2019.
9. Jill Levin, School Social Worker at Buffalo High School, resignation effective June 7, 2019.
10. Jessica Cuhel, Special Education Teacher at Buffalo High School, resignation effective June 7, 2019.
11. Lori Anderson, Special Education Teacher at Buffalo High School, resignation effective June 7, 2019.
12. Jamie Keleher, ESP at PRIDE, resignation effective June 6, 2019.
13. William Pecarina, 3rd Shift Custodian at Buffalo High School, resignation effective June 7, 2019.
14. Deb Ross, KidKare Supervisor, resignation effective June 7, 2019.
15. Kimberly Baker, KidKare Supervisor, resignation effective May 10, 2019.
16. Erin Waldorf, KidKare Supervisor, resignation effective June 7, 2019.
17. Sigourney Wubben, KidKare Aide, resignation effective June 4, 2019.
18. Emily Waldorf, KidKare Supervisor, resignation effective June 6, 2019.
19. Alex Hoiem, KidKare Aide, termination effective May 24, 2019.
20. Regan Stenberg, KidKare Aide, termination effective May 24, 2019.
21. Brookelyn Johanneck, AVID Tutor at Buffalo Community Middle School, termination effective June 6, 2019.

TRANSFER/CHANGE IN ASSIGNMENT - Approve the following transfers/changes in assignment:

1. Jill Hygrel, transfer as Special Education Teacher from Buffalo High School to PRIDE, effective August 26, 2019.

2. Kaia Grant, from Special Education Teacher at Buffalo High School to PPD Coach – Teacher on Special Assignment, effective August 26, 2019.
3. Rebecca Hanson, from 1st Grade to 2nd Grade Teacher at Hanover Elementary, effective August 26, 2019.
4. Megan Scherer, to .6 FTE STEAM/AVID Teacher and .4 FTE AVID Coordinator, effective August 26, 2019.
5. Rob Nosbush, from 1.0 FTE High Potential Services Coordinator to .5 FTE High Potential Services Coordinator and .5 FTE District Assessment Coordinator, effective August 26, 2019.
6. Cecelia VanDorp, from 1.0 to .532 FTE Special Education Teacher at Parkside Elementary, effective August 26, 2019.
7. Melissa Bertsch, from PPD Coach to 33.5 Avid Coordinator, 33.5 Arts Magnet Coordinator and .33 English Teacher at Buffalo High School, effective August 26, 2019.
8. Kim Hinrichs, from Interim to Director of Food Service, effective July 1, 2019.
9. Richard Thompson, from 2nd Shift to Lead Custodian at Buffalo High School, effective June 3, 2019. This is a replacement for Brian Warzetha.
10. Jesse Neumann, transfer as Custodian from Buffalo Community Middle School to Buffalo High School, effective April 24, 2019.
11. Jill Mischke, from ESP at Hanover Elementary and District United for Youth Coordinator to Secretary to the Director of Special Education, effective May 22, 2019.
12. Irina Dehn, KidKare Supervisor, from 30 to 40 hours/week, effective June 10, 2019.
13. Sarah Hemze, KidKare Supervisor, from 32.5 to 40 hours/week, effective June 10, 2019.
14. Jasmine Hopkins, KidKare Supervisor, from 35 to 40 hours/week, effective June 10, 2019.
15. Karli Levchak, KidKare Supervisor, from 33.75 to 40 hours/week, effective June 10, 2019.
16. Karen Moline, KidKare Supervisor, from 25 to 32.5 hours/week, effective June 10, 2019.
17. Madison Teichert, KidKare Assistant from 32.5 to 40 hours/week, effective June 10, 2019.
18. Patricia Wood, KidKare Supervisor, from 32.5 to 40 hours/week, effective June 10, 2019.

LEAVE OF ABSENCE – Approve the following requests for leave of absence:

1. Katie Baumgartner, KidKare Supervisor, request for leave of absence effective May 30, 2019 and ending June 30, 2019.
2. Marsha Muntifering, 1st Grade Teacher at Northwinds Elementary, extension of leave of absence to end June 7, 2019.
3. Krista Kern, School Social Worker at Buffalo High School, request for leave of absence effective May 10, 2019 and ending June 7, 2019.
4. Jillian Post, Art Teacher at Buffalo Community Middle School, request for leave of absence effective May 7, 2019 and ending June 7, 2019.

5. Stacey Swedal, Multi-Age Teacher at Discovery Elementary, request for leave of absence effective May 10, 2019 and ending June 7, 2019.

B. Check Disbursements

Payroll checks # 9000053349 through 9000055189, and 205565 through 205590, amounting to \$2,177,599.62. P-card disbursement checks 8000000863 to 8000000892, totaling \$114,745.97. Bill-pay wires 800000563 through 800000593. Employee reimbursement checks 9100002101 through 9100002180, and Accounts Payable checks 390383 through 390720, for the period of April 11 – May 24 as follows:

01	GENERAL FUND	3,633,568.12	
02	FOOD SERVICE	187,332.68	
04	COMMUNITY SERVICE	181,176.63	
05	CAPITAL OUTLAY	207,434.29	
06	NEW BUILDING	38,656.95	
07	DEBT SERVICE	200.00	
09	ACTIVITY FUND	19,461.76	
16	ALTERNATIVE FACILITIE	.00	
45	POST EMP BENEFITS IRREV TRU	63,959.47	47
	DEBT REDEMPTION	<u>.00</u>	
	TOTAL	\$4,331,789.90	

C. Electronic Fund Transfers

A list of the electronic fund transfers occurring in the official depositories (for the period of April 15 - May 19) is as follows:

Date	Vendor & Purpose	Amount
04/15/19	Chicago USA Tax Pmt – Fed Taxes	\$ 361,429.25
04/15/19	MN Teachers Retirement Association	188,433.64
04/15/19	MN Public Emp Retirement Association	59,598.79
04/15/19	MN Dept. of Revenue – Sales Tax	535.00
04/16/19	MN Dept. of Revenue - Garnishment	274.89
04/16/19	MN Dept. of Revenue – State Taxes	61,222.34
04/16/19	State of MN - Child Support	381.00
04/16/19	Ed Ben Consultants–Deferred Annuities	47,894.23
04/16/19	eBay Inc.	269.23
04/16/19	MN Dept. of Revenue - Garnishment	203.16
04/16/19	MN Dept. of Revenue - Garnishment	165.37
04/17/19	Delta Dental – Dental Insurance	8,141.05
04/17/19	#877 Employees - Employee Reimb.	3,625.81
04/17/19	Select Account – Flex	5,395.20

04/24/19	Delta Dental – Dental Insurance	7,267.55
04/24/19	Select Account – Flex	7,559.30
04/30/19	#877 Employees – Employee Payroll	1,035,596.63
04/30/19	Chicago USA Tax Pmt – Fed Taxes	345,841.32
04/30/19	MN Public Employees Retire Assoc	53,173.21
04/30/19	MN Teachers Retirement Association	185,707.17
05/01/19	State of MN - Child Support	381.00
05/01/19	MN Dept. of Revenue – State Taxes	58,625.33
05/01/19	#877 Employees – Employee Reimb.	6,251.93
05/01/19	Ed Benefit Consult – Deferred Annuities	48,202.15
05/01/19	Select Account – Flex	3,757.72
05/01/19	BCBS - Health Insurance	887,954.00
05/01/19	MN Dept. of Revenue - Garnishment	17.55
05/01/19	Grouped Fee - MSDLAF	31.83
05/02/19	Xcel Energy – Utility	54.34
05/02/19	Chicago USA Tax Pmt – Fed Taxes	630.11
05/02/19	MN Dept. of Revenue – State Taxes	14.54
05/02/19	MN Public Employees Retire Assoc	572.11
05/06/19	Delta Dental – Dental Insurance	12,980.70
05/07/19	Select Account – Health Insurance	2,600.00
05/07/19	BMO Corporate MasterCard – P-Card	136,636.33
05/08/19	Delta Dental – Dental Insurance	5,073.94
05/08/19	Select Account – Flex	6,151.60
05/08/19	Vanco - Food Service Fee	4,423.87
05/08/19	FeePay - Community Ed Fee	5,312.88
05/13/19	FeePay - Community Ed Fee	1,450.00
05/13/19	MN Dept. of Revenue – Sales Tax	869.00
05/14/19	Xcel Energy – Utility	1,326.40
05/14/19	Cash Manage Service Fee - MSDLAF	40.68
05/15/19	#877 Employees – Employee Reimb.	3,715.98
05/15/19	Select Account – Health Insurance	4,600.00
05/15/19	Delta Dental – Dental Insurance	9,248.89
05/15/19	#877 Employees – Employee Payroll	1,137,667.42
05/15/19	MN Public Employees Retire Assoc	65,444.59
05/15/19	MN Teachers Retirement Association	189,233.02
05/15/19	Chicago USA Tax Pmt – Fed Taxes	377,590.06
05/15/19	Select Account – Flex	4,377.47
05/16/19	State of MN - Child Support	381.00
05/16/19	eBay Inc.	228.39
05/16/19	Ed Ben Consultants–Deferred Annuities	49,251.88
05/16/19	MN Dept. of Revenue – State Taxes	64,207.80

05/16/19	MN Dept. of Revenue - Garnishment	318.33
05/16/19	MN Dept. of Revenue - Garnishment	224.47
	Total	<u>\$ 5,462,561.45</u>

D. Minutes - April 22, 2019 Regular Meeting and May 13, 2019 Special Meeting

E. Donations/Grants totaling \$35,980.93

Lee/Brings to approve

Motion carried 7-0

5. ACTION ITEMS

A. Appointment of Director of Nutrition Services - Kim Hinrichs, Gary Kawlewski -
Director of Finance and Operations

Kim Hinrichs formerly served as the Food Manager at DES and is a 22-year veteran of the District. Having served as the Interim Director, she now looks forward to providing more student meal options and events. Comments from the selection process is that Kim is calm yet fearless and willing to listen, has great experience and is student-centered.

Brings/Lee to approve

Motion carried 7-0

B. Curriculum Adoption, Pam Miller, Director of Teaching and Learning

Recommendation takes into consideration the budget reductions for 2019-20.

1. K-12 Art

The total budget request equals \$29,277.

2. K-12 Music

The total budget request equals \$157,481. Teachers will look into the possibility of leasing instruments.

Brings/Lee to approve

Motion carried 7-0

C. Out-of-State Trip – Germany, Mark Mischke, BHS Principal

Trip is for 14 students to participate in a German exchange program with host families, June 13-30, 2019. Last October, BHS hosted the German students at BHS.

Ogden/Raymond to approve

Motion carried 7-0

D. Seasonal Layoffs, Gary Kawlewski, Director of Finance and Operations

Be it resolved, the Board of Education of ISD 877 Buffalo-Hanover-Montrose Schools approves seasonal leaves of absence to district employees who work in school-year positions less than twelve months a year, such leave being from the time they complete their 2018-2019 duties until the scheduled return to work for the 2019-2020 school year. Positions include food service personnel, education support professionals, clerical staff and other non-affiliated school year employees.

Brings/Lee to approve

Discussion – these employees will return in the fall.

Motion carried 7-0

E. LTFM Resolutions, Gary Kawlewski, Director of Finance and Operations

Fourth year of LTFM program which allows them to levy through us since we are part of the co-op.

1. Wright Technical Center

Levy is up slightly from the prior year to \$50,067 for BHM School District's portion or a tax impact of \$2.50 per year on a \$200,000 property.

Brings/Lee moved to approve the following resolution:

RESOLUTION WRIGHT TECHNICAL CENTER'S LONG-TERM
FACILITY MAINTENANCE PROGRAM BUDGET AND
AUTHORIZING
THE INCLUSION OF A PROPORTIONATE SHARE OF THOSE
PROJECTS IN THE DISTRICT'S APPLICATION FOR LONG-TERM
FACILITY MAINTENANCE REVENUE

BE IT RESOLVED by the School Board of District No. 877, State of Minnesota, as follows:

1. The School Board of Cooperative School District 966 has approved a long-term facility maintenance program budget for its facilities for the 2020-2021 school year in the amount of \$167,000.00 of which District No. 877's proportionate share is \$50,066.60 The various components of this program budget are attached as Exhibit A hereto and are incorporated herein by reference. Said budget is hereby approved. (Exhibit A)

2. Minnesota Statutes, Section 123B.53, Subdivision 1, as amended, provides that if an cooperative school district's long-term facility maintenance budget is approved by the school boards of each of the cooperative school district's member school districts, each member district may include its proportionate share of the costs of the cooperative school district program in its long-term facility maintenance revenue application.

3. The proportionate share of the costs of the cooperative school district's long-term facility maintenance program for each member school district to be included in its application shall be determined by multiplying the total cost of the cooperative school district long-term facility maintenance program times a three year weighted average adjusted pupil units formula. The long-term facility maintenance costs shall be funded through annual levy instead of issuing bonds. The inclusion of this proportionate share in the district's long-term facility maintenance revenue application for fiscal

year 2020 is hereby approved, subject to approval by the Commissioner of Education.

4. Upon receipt of the proportionate share of long-term facility maintenance revenue attributable to the cooperative school district program, the district shall promptly pay to the cooperative school district the applicable aid or levy proceeds.

Motion carried 7-0

2. SouthWest Metro Intermediate District

Levy is up to \$275,000 for BHM School District's portion or a tax impact of \$1.20 per year on a \$200,000 property.

Brings/Lee moved to approve the following resolution:

RESOLUTION APPROVING SW METRO INTERMEDIATE SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 288'S LONG-TERM FACILITY MAINTENANCE PROGRAM BUDGET AND AUTHORIZING THE INCLUSION OF A PROPORTIONATE SHARE OF THOSE PROJECTS IN THE DISTRICT'S APPLICATION FOR LONG-TERM FACILITY MAINTENANCE REVENUE

BE IT RESOLVED by the School Board of District No. 877, State of Minnesota, as follows:

1. The School Board of SW Metro Intermediate School District No. 288 has approved a long-term facility maintenance program budget for its facilities for the 2020-2021 school year in the amount of \$275,000.00. The various components of the program budget are attached as Exhibit A hereto and are incorporated herein by reference. Said budget is hereby approved (Exhibit A)
2. Minnesota Statutes, Section 123B.53, Subdivision 1, as amended, provides that if an intermediate school district's long-term facility maintenance budget is approved by the school boards of each of the intermediate school district's member school districts, each member district may include its proportionate share of the costs of the intermediate school district programming its long-term facility maintenance revenue application.
3. The proportionate share of the cost of the intermediate school district's long-term facility maintenance program for each member school district

to be included in its application shall be determined by multiplying the total cost of the intermediate school district long-term facility maintenance program times a percentage that weighs the two components of each member district's portion of the total Special Education Tuition billing and Vocational billing. The long-term facility maintenance costs shall be funded through annual levy instead of issuing bonds. The inclusion of this proportionate share in the district's long-term facility maintenance revenue application for the fiscal year 2021 is hereby approved, subject to approval by the Commissioner of Education.

4. Upon receipt of the proportionate share of long-term facility maintenance revenue attributable to the intermediate school district program, the district shall promptly pay to the intermediate school district the applicable aid or levy proceeds.

Motion carried 7-0

F. Resolution Reauthorizing the Board Approved Referendum Authority, Gary Kawlewski, Director of Finance and Operations

No new tax impact but moves from voter-approved to board-approved authority.

Brings/Raymond moved to approve the following resolution:

**RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING A NEW
BOARD APPROVED REFERENDUM AUTHORITY**

BE IT RESOLVED by the School Board of Independent School District No. 877, State of Minnesota, as follows:

1. Current Authority. The District has less than \$300 of current voter or board approved referendum authority, as of taxes payable 2021.
2. Approval of New Authority. Pursuant to Minnesota Statutes, Section 126C.17, subdivision 9a, the Board hereby determines to authorize a new Board approved referendum authority in the amount of \$113.68 per adjusted pupil unit. It is the intention of the Board to create the maximum authority for which it is eligible, not to exceed \$300 per adjusted pupil unit. This new Board approved referendum authority, as adjusted, shall be applicable for three years, beginning with taxes payable in 2021. The Board may subsequently reauthorize the Board approved referendum authority in increments of up to five years.

Discussion: Bill has been approved by the Legislature and is waiting for the Governor's signature.

Motion carried 7-0

Commented [GC1]: This lines it up with the \$180.13, which was renewed for 5 years, through pay 2023... you can do up to 5 years

G. Probationary Staff, Evan Ronken, Director of Human Resources

1. Discontinuance of Contract

Lee/Sansevere moved that the following teachers, substitute teachers, acting incumbents, yearly, and out-of-licensure contracts be discontinued pursuant to the provisions of their individual contracts. The Superintendent is directed to inform these staff members of their discontinuation and to express the District's thanks for their services: Carolyn Fox – substitute, Lauren Kahle – substitute, Tammy Larson – licensure.

2. Resolution Relating to the Termination and NonRenewal of the Teaching Contract of a Probationary Teacher

RESOLUTION RELATING TO THE TERMINATION AND NONRENEWAL OF THE TEACHING CONTRACT OF (TEACHER) A PROBATIONARY TEACHER:

BE IT RESOLVED, by the School Board of Independent School District 877, that pursuant to Minnesota Statutes 122A.40, Subdivision 5, that the teaching contract of (teacher), a probationary teacher in Independent School District 877, will hereby end at the close of the current 2018-19 school year.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that written notice be sent to said teacher regarding termination and nonrenewal of his/her contract as provided by law, and that said notice shall be in substantially the following form:

Dear (teacher),

You are hereby notified that at a regular meeting of the School Board of Independent School District 877 held on May 28, 2019, a resolution was adopted by a majority roll call vote to end your contract effective at the end of the current school year and not to renew your contract for the 2019-20 school year. Said action of the Board is taken pursuant to M.S. 122A.40, Subd. 5.

You may officially request that the School Board give its reasons for the nonrenewal of your teaching contract. However, such requests should be received within ten days after receipt of this notice.

Nicole Reicks - Brings/Sansevere to approve

Motion carried 7-0

Megan Steil - Brings/Sansevere to approve

Motion carried 7-0

Sarah Thompson - Brings/Sansevere to approve

Motion carried 7-0

- H. 2019-20 Board of Education Meeting Schedule, Scott Thielman, Superintendent
The Board meetings are held on the 4th Monday of the month and the workshops are held on the 2nd Monday of the Month. Workshops rotate locations among the schools.
Sansevere/Reineck to approve
Motion carried 7-0

6. REPORTS

- A. First Reading of Policy #534 - Unpaid Meal Charges, Gary Kawlewski, Director of Finance and Operations
This is the procedure we have used for the past three years. Now this is a recommended policy for school districts and uses MSBA recommended language. Students are always provided a meal, even if their account balance does not have enough funds (ala carte items are not allowable). If account is more than \$50 overdue at the end of the school year, the district contacts the family and if funds are not received, a collection agency is used. This policy will be brought for a final reading in June.

- B. Recommendation for 2020-21 Budget Reductions, Gary Kawlewski, Director of Finance and Operations and Scott Thielman, Superintendent
85% of our funding comes from the state of Minnesota. We had built up a fund balance and have been spending it down by hiring teachers to address class sizes. In presentations, explaining that the funding of schools is similar to a household savings account. Budget cuts were made in 2008 and 2009 totaling over \$3 million. Received various types of state funds in 2010-11 and 2011-12. In 2012-13 started the OPEB program for covering retirement benefits. Started hiring back some teaching positions with the fund balance which reached a high of 15%. Reached a point where we were at the fund balance policy of 8% and held an operating levy election in the fall of 2018 which was unsuccessful. For 2019-20, \$725,000 worth of budget reductions have been put in place. These reductions include 5 teaching positions, increased activity and gate fees, energy/management savings, supply budget reductions across the district and reduction of a clerical position. Also included is the reduction of 10 teachers, returning us to the 2014-15 class size ratios (\$650,000). This brings us to a total of \$1,375,000 in reductions for the 2019-20 year.

Reviewed the list of \$2.9 million of reductions proposed for 2020-21. This includes 22 teaching positions, 4 clerical positions, 2 custodian positions and 1 administrative position. Also included is the closing of Phoenix Learning Center and Discovery Elementary and the elimination of the Quest and wRight Choice programs. We understand we may lose students due to eliminating these programs.

The Board is surveying staff, parents and residents asking for their input regarding the district's financial position and the proposed budget cuts. The link to the survey will be emailed to staff and parents and will be provided to the residents through the *Insider*. The survey link will be open through June 17 and the company will present findings to the Board on June 24th.

Supt. Thielman commented that the district continually works to communicate with legislators about school funding. State funding has not even kept up with the cost of living. Neighboring districts have operating levies in place, putting them above BHM schools for funding received, for example Monticello has \$510 per pupil more than BHM.

Chair Wilson explained that the 2018 levy election was asking to offer some new programs while now we are looking at saving what we have.

Explaining school district financing is difficult from all perspectives. The difference between bonds and levies for example; bonds are for buildings and levies are for learning. Also, the state reports that they are giving schools huge amounts of money, but we need to explain what that actually is for our district. Also, the lack of special education funding is key to our financial status.

Also residents need to be aware that if schools are not doing well, this affects property taxes in that houses aren't built and valuations decrease.

7. COMMITTEE REPORTS

LR – SEE

AR – 877 Foundation

BS – CEAC, NWSISD

8. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

9. OTHER

Ogden/Sansevere to adjourn at 8:50 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Melissa Brings, Clerk
ISD 877 Board of Education