

BRIDGMAN PUBLIC SCHOOL DISTRICT
Bridgman, Michigan
Minutes of Regular Meeting
May 12, 2025

Call to Order: The Regular Meeting of the Bridgman Public School District Board of Education was held on Monday, May 12, 2025, in the Media Center at Bridgman High School, 9964 Gast Road, Bridgman, MI 49106. The meeting was called to order by President Ramso at 6:34 p.m.

Members Present: Eric Ramso, Wayne Hall, Brad Owen, JoAnn DeMeulenaere, and Tom LaVanway

Members Absent: Tishia Roberts and Nancy Hawley

Additions/Changes to Agenda: None

Superintendent Comments & Presentations:

Superintendent Peters announced the High School Graduation will take place Sunday, June 1st at 1:00 in the BHS gymnasium. Board members are to arrive at 12:30. 8th Grade Promotion will be on Thursday, June 5th at 6:30 pm in the BHS gymnasium. There will be two Board Meetings in June, on the 9th and 23rd.

Superintendent Peters also announced the District is trying to be in communication with the architect who created the non-motorized trail along Gast Road to Lake Township Park. The school is concerned about the area by the tennis courts, where we installed a French drain to protect the Tennis Courts from water damage.

Superintendent Peters explained that the Admin Contracts will be on the June 9th agenda instead of today's. Also in June, the Board will be approving a contract with Brandywine Public Schools to take over payroll services.

BHS Principal, Gerald Heath, introduced Miss Blossomtime 2025, Ava Starbuck, who is also a senior at Bridgman High School. Ava told the board she is thankful for the opportunity to represent her town and for all that she will learn in the upcoming year.

Discussion Items:

President Ramso presented the 2025-2026 Berrien Regional Education Service Agency General Fund Operating Budget

President Ramso presented the Berrien Regional Service Agency Biennial Election Resolution. There are two candidates vying for two open seats.

Superintendent Peters gave the Second Reading of New/Revised Policies: po0131.1, po1430, po2340, po3430, po4430, po5320, po5330, po5330.01, po5350, po5460, po8320, po8500, po8510, po8640(Rescind)

Superintendent Peters reviewed the changes to the 2025-2026 Support Staff Employee Handbook for 3rd Party Employees at Bridgman Public Schools.

Superintendent Peters reviewed the changes to the 2025-2026 Bridgman Public Schools Support Staff Employee Handbook.

Superintendent Peters presented the BEA Master Agreement: 2025-2026 Appendix A. Superintendent Peters stressed that we continue to take care of the people who are still working with us.

Superintendent Peters reviewed the Letter of Agreement Article 10 Section 2. The levels stayed the same, but the salary levels increased. The level advancement language was removed.

President Ramso presented the 2025-2026 Employment Contracts for our three District Social Workers.

Superintendent Peters reviewed the Aquatic Center Pricing changes that will go into effect on July 1, 2025.

Superintendent Peters presented the bids for the replacement of the BES Electronic Sign Project. This will be paid for out of the General Fund.

Member Owen reviewed the April bills for payment.

The April 28, 2025, Regular Meeting minutes and Closed Meeting minutes were presented with no corrections or changes.

Consent Agenda:

Motion was made by Member Hall, supported by Member Owen, to approve the following consent agenda items. Motion carried 5-0

1. Approve Employment contract for Kim Betustak, District Social Worker
2. Approve Employment contract for Angelina Cooper, District Social Worker
3. Approve Employment contract for Shannon Woerdehoff, District Social Worker
4. Approve 2025-2026 Fall Coaching Recommendations:
 - a. Aaron Locke for Varsity Football Head Coach (Level 12), \$9,513
 - b. Al Ottusch for Varsity Football Assistant Coach (Level 8), \$5,574
 - c. Steve Veldman for Varsity Football Assistant Coach (Level 12), \$6,232
 - d. Spencer Carr for Varsity Cross Country Head Coach (Level 6), \$6,370
 - e. Emma Cramer for Middle School Cross Country Head Coach (Level 2), \$2,929
 - f. Emily Nannfeldt for Varsity Girls Swimming/Diving Head Coach (Level 8), \$7,335

- g. Nick Foxworthy for Varsity Boys Soccer Head Coach (Level 7), \$5,703
- h. Kelly Hahaj for Middle School Boys Soccer Head Coach (Level 1), \$2,837
- i. Melissa Church for Varsity Volleyball Head Coach (Level 5), \$6, 718
- j. Caitlyn Lustila for Varsity Football Sideline Cheer Coach (Level 1), \$2,837

5. Approve the hiring of Michelle Foxworthy for Varsity Girls Basketball Coach (Level 7), \$9,981

6. Approve the April Bills for payment.

7. Approve the April 28, 2025, Regular Meeting minutes and Closed Meeting minutes

Action Items:

Motion was made by Member Hall, supported by Member LaVanway, to approve the 2025-2026 Berrien Regional Education Service Agency General Fund Operating Budget. Motion carried 5-0

Motion was made by Member LaVanway, supported by Member Hall, to approve the Berrien Regional Service Agency Biennial Election Resolution. Motion carried 5-0

Motion was made by Member Hall, supported by Member LaVanway, to approve the Second Reading of New/Revised Policies: po0131.1, po1430, po2340, po3430, po4430, po5320, po5330, po5330.01, po5350, po5460, po8320, po8500, po8510, po8640(Rescind). Motion carried 5-0

Motion was made by Member Owen, supported by Member Hall, to approve the 2025-2026 Support Staff Employee Handbook for 3rd Party Employees. Motion carried 5-0

Motion was made by Member LaVanway, supported by Member Hall, to approve the 2025-2026 Support Staff Employee Handbook. Motion carried 5-0

Motion was made by Member Hall, supported by Member Owen, to approve the 2023-2026 BEA Master Agreement: 2025-2026 Appendix A. Motion carried 5-0.

Motion was made by Member Owen, supported by Member LaVanway, to approve the Article 10 Section 2 Letter of Agreement. Motion carried 5-0

Motion was made by Member LaVanway, supported by Member Hall, to approve the Aquatic Center Pricing effective July 1, 2025. Motion carried 5-0

Motion was made by Member Hall, supported by Member LaVanway, to approve the original bid from Fritz Signs and the alternate bid from Fritz Signs in the amount of \$47,597.50 for the BES electronic sign project. Motion carried 5-0

Public Comments:

BEA President Angela Ales expressed gratitude and appreciation for the staff raises on behalf of the BEA.

Other Business:

President Ramso reminded all Board members that they have been registered for the IBB Training sessions in January 2026.

President Ramso shared his condolences to Principal Graves on the passing of her stepfather.

President Ramso read a thank you note from the BHS staff for the pretzel truck during Teacher Appreciation Week.

Assistant Superintendent, Sam Stine, addressed the Board about the drainage concerns in the northeast corner of the tennis courts from the construction work of the non-motorized trail. He has been told they will do different grading at the low point to protect the tennis court from becoming damaged. He will continue to be in communication with the construction company and Lake Charter Township.

Member Hall had to leave the meeting at 7:23 p.m.

Adjournment:

Motion was made by Member Owen, supported by Member LaVanway, to adjourn. Motion carried 4-0, and the meeting adjourned at 7:24 p.m.

Minutes taken by Molly Owen, Superintendent Secretary

Tishia Roberts, Secretary
Board of Education