

MINUTES - REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION

October 14, 2020

6:30 P.M.

Bloomington High School

The Board of Education of the Bloomington Public Schools, School District 87, McLean County, Illinois, met in Regular Session.

Ms. Wilma Gleason, Board Secretary, established a quorum and the following Members were present: Mr. James Almeda, Ms. Elizabeth Fox Anvick, Mrs. Tammy Houtzel, Mr. Charles Irwin, Mr. Mark Wylie, and Ms. Brigitte Beasley, Board President.

It was moved by Mr. Wylie, seconded by Mrs. Houtzel, that the Board approve the September 23, 2020 Regular Board of Education Meeting Minutes. Upon a roll call vote, all Members present voted "Aye". Motion carried.

Ms. Fox Anvick attended parent/teacher conferences via Zoom, and she thanked the teachers.

Mr. Wylie attended a census committee meeting. The last day to sign up is October 15th. He encouraged people to sign up if they haven't already done so. Mr. Wylie also attended a McLean County Regional Planning Commission meeting.

Dr. Reilly presented Board policies for 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> readings.

It was moved by Mr. Almeda, seconded by Mr. Irwin, that the Board approve the Consent Agenda (Human Resources, Bills, FOIA Report, Payroll, Treasurer's Report, Financial Summary). Upon a roll call vote, all Members present voted "Aye". Motion carried. (See with Original Minutes, 10-14-20/1)

Dr. Reilly stated that salary reports for teachers, administrators and certain IMRF employees are posted each year on the District's website in the Human Resources section. These will be updated on October 15, 2020.

Dr. Reilly stated that there are currently 59 out of 107 qualifying special education students participating in in-person learning.

The transition to in-person learning for PreK-2 students is October 26<sup>th</sup>. 30% of the district's students will remain in 100% remote learning. This will allow us to meet every single IDPH safety recommendation because we can social distance students 6'

or more. Because we are able to meet safety recommendations such as masks, social distancing, hand sanitizers, wash hands frequently, teach students how to do so, deep cleaning nightly, etc., school districts have found that transmissions are not happening in schools. The district will add 3<sup>rd</sup>-6<sup>th</sup> grades on November 9<sup>th</sup>.

7<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> graders will continue remote learning for the remainder of the semester. The main reasons are that, unlike elementary schools and 6<sup>th</sup> grade, it is much more difficult to keep students in small cohorts. If we were to change the secondary level in mid-November, there would be transitions to different teachers then and again at the semester break. Some 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> graders take courses for high school credit, and we share some teachers between the two buildings. We will pay attention to students and parents who are struggling and will look at these on a case-by-case basis. Dr. Reilly does not anticipate having all students return to 100% in-person learning until there is a widely available vaccine. Dr. Reilly continues to have conversations with our two local hospitals and the Illinois Department of Public Health. The district takes into account the metrics on the McLean County COVID website, we track our staff members daily, and we will do the same with our students.

It was moved Mr. Wylie, seconded by Ms. Fox Anvick, that the Board approve the National Principals' Month Resolution. Upon a roll call vote, all Members present voted "Aye". Motion carried. (See with Original Minutes, 10-14-20/2)

It was moved Mrs. Houtzel, seconded by Mr. Almeda, that the Board approve the following Board Policies:

- 2.220 (School Board Meeting Procedure)
- 2.260 (Uniform Grievance Procedure)
- 2.265 (Title IX Sexual Harassment Grievance Procedure)
- 5.10 (Equal Employment Opportunity and Minority Recruitment)
- 5.20 (Workplace Harassment Prohibited)
- 5.100 (Staff Development Program)
- 5.220 (Substitute Teachers)
- 5.330 (Sick Days, Vacation, Holidays, and Leaves)
- 7.10 (Equal Educational Opportunities)
- 7.20 (Harassment of Students Prohibited)
- 7.90 (Release During School Hours)
- 7.180 (Prevention of and Response to Bullying, Intimidation, and Harassment)
- 7.185 (Teen Dating Violence Prohibited)

- 7.190 (Student Behavior)
- 7.340 (Student Records)
- 7.345 (Use of Educational Technologies; Student Data Privacy and Security)
- 8.10 (Connection with the Community)
- 8.30 (Visitors to and Conduct on School Property)
- 8.110 (Public Suggestions and Concerns).

Upon a roll call vote, all Members present voted "Aye".  
Motion carried. (See with Original Minutes, 10-14-20/3)

Treasure Davis, 407 Priscilla Lane, Bloomington addressed the Board regarding the transition plan. Remote learning is working; it is not ideal but nothing is right now. Please reconsider and keep students 100% remote for the safety of students and teachers.

Mandy Hawker, 8 Cave Creek Court, Bloomington, addressed the Board regarding the transition plan. Her son has to change teachers, and she believes that this is difficult for students. She doesn't understand why parents cannot change their minds. She doesn't like that teachers will have no access to a teacher two days each week. She would rather students be 100% in-person or 100% remote.

Erica Hartman, 10 Kenfield Circle, Bloomington, thanked the Board for giving 6<sup>th</sup> graders the option to return to school. The sooner we can find a safe way to get kids back to 100% in-person, this will help families who cannot work from home and do not have an income. It is her belief that there are many in the community who support this decision to return to school.

It was moved by Mrs. Houtzel, seconded by Mr. Almeda, to adjourn this meeting of the Board of Education. Upon a roll call vote, all Members present voted "Aye." Motion carried. The meeting adjourned at 7:04 p.m.

APPROVED:

ATTEST:

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President

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Secretary