

BOARD OF EDUCATION

BALDWIN COMMUNITY SCHOOLS  
Baldwin, Michigan 49304

SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES OF MARCH 22, 2022

**I. ROUTINE BUSINESS**

A. Call to Order

Mr. Martin called the meeting to order at 6:01 pm.

B. Roll Call

Members Present: Brooks, Ware, Pieske, Hill, Carter, Abraham, Martin

Member Absent: None

C. Pledge of Allegiance

D. Recitation of BCS Mission Statement

E. The Purpose of the Open Board Meeting:

*"This meeting is a meeting of the Board of Education in public for the purpose of conducting the School District's business and is not to be considered a public community meeting. There is a time for public participation during the meeting as indicated in the agenda"*

**II. COMMUNICATIONS (COMMUNITY ITEMS)**

None.

**III. DISCUSSION ITEMS**

A. November 2022 Bond Proposal Scope

Mr. Forrester presented in regards to the November bond scope. He discussed the importance of making a decision on the scope. He highlighted having an adequate amount of time to reach out to the community and receiving approval from the Michigan Department

of Treasury. Mr. Forrester explained the differences between the proposals. He reviewed some of the results of the surveyors' data. Mr. Forrester reported that he has spoken with the construction manager, communication firm and surveyors' and all report that if the Board decides to go with the larger proposal it is less supported by the community at 58% than the lesser amount at being supported at 60%. Mr. Forrester informed the board that they could adjust the amount if they chose to remove some items they don't feel necessary. The Board engaged in numerous conversations with themselves and the community members to come up with the best possible decision for the students and the community.

B. BCS/BEA Letters of Agreement

Mr. Forrester explained the two Letter of Agreement. The first Letter of Agreement is in regards to adding one more day to the end of the school year to be compliant with MDE. The second Letter of Agreement is regarding going back to the traditional calendar and teachers getting paid for summer school. Mr. Forrester shared that teachers will be paid primarily out of grant funds.

C. BESPAs Negotiations Request

Mr. Forrester explained that he received a request from BESPAs union representatives to reopen the collective bargaining agreement. He is asking permission to open the contract for discussion.

#### IV. COMMUNICATIONS (COMMUNITY ITEMS)

Mr. Watkins questioned why the turf field was singled out in the community survey. Mr. Watkins emphasized his concerns regarding the turf field and reported that this suggestion was a splurge not a necessity and if this can get communicated more clearly about the bond proposals and the difference between the two scopes. Mr. Watkins made several statements that he wants a guarantee that the bond will pass and not to let it fail.

One other community member inquired about how residents were selected. Mr. Forrester explained that the surveyors' randomly selected based on the registered voters in the area.

## V. ACTION ITEMS

### A. Approve November 2022 Bond Proposal Scope

A motion was made by Ware and supported by Carter to approve the 50 million Bond Proposal Scope with alternative materials for the football field on the November 2022 ballot. 48.5 million

4 Ayes, 3 Nays, Carried

### B. Approve the Letters of Agreement

A motion was made by Pieske and supported by Ware to approve the Letter of Agreement regarding Summer school paying teachers and adding one more day to the calendar.

7 Ayes, 0 Nays, Carried

### C. Approve the Superintendent to Discuss CBA Revisions with BESPA

A motion was made by Ware and supported by Hill to approve Superintendent Forrester to open discussion to contract revisions with BESPA.

7 Ayes, 0 Nays, Carried

### D. Approve to hire Thrun Law firm as Baldwin Schools policy provider

A motion made by Pieske and supported by Ware to hire Thrun Law as Baldwin Community School policy provider.

7 Ayes, 0 Nays, Carried

**VI. CLOSED SESSION**

Attorney/Client Privileged Information

A motion was made by Ware and supported by Carter to enter into closed session at 7:25 pm.

President Martin called the meeting back to order at 7:43 pm

**VII. THRUN LAW FIRM POLICY SERVICE - TIM GARDNER**

Mr. Gardner provided a summary of the services, including a description of benefits, pricing, and general procedures for implementation for developing policies.

A motion made by Pieske and supported by Ware to hire Thrun Law as Baldwin Community School policy provider.

7 Ayes, 0 Nays, Carried

**VIII. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT**

**Communications Update**

Mr. Forrester updated the Board the status of the progress of the Communication Firm.

**Elementary Family Literacy Night - March 23, 2022**

Mr. Forrester stated that he will release a Robocall to promote Family Literacy Night and a text will go out tomorrow at noon also.

**Graduation Gowns**

Mr. Forrester made sure all members got their gown information in. All confirmed and have turned the necessary information to Theresa.

**Special Meeting - March 29, 2022**

Mr. Forrester reminded everyone that MASB will be here March 29th, 2022 to train in completing the Superintendent evaluation.

**IX. BOARD PRESIDENT'S ITEMS**

Miss Martin thanked everyone from the board and recognized the hardship they have making the best decision for the district and their students.

**X. BOARD MEMBERS' ITEMS**

Mr. Brooks asked about security during after school activities. Mr. Forrester stated that our SRO Officer will be present or the sheriff department will send deputies over.

Mrs. Pieske reported that the turn out for the Lock-In was really good and the kids had a great time and were very well-behaved. She noted what a great job Mrs. McGahey did. Very well organizing the event.

Ms. Ware commented on summer school. She stressed the importance when we are reaching out to parents to clearly communicate with where their child is academically, not just by grades, but use test scores and data from NWEA scores to ensure that families understand their child strengths and weaknesses and how Summer school benefits every child. Mr. Forrester shared that not only will classes be the core academic base, but will also give options to some sports, STEM and other more interest driven subjects.

**XI. ADJOURNMENT**

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A motion was made by Ware and supported by Pieske to adjourn the meeting at 8:18 pm.

Mrs. Martin adjourned the meeting at 8:18

**Respectfully Submitted,**

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Katena Abraham", written in a cursive style. The signature is positioned above the printed name and title.

**Katena Abraham, Secretary  
Board of Education**