

Minutes of the meeting of the Board of Education held on April 17, 2023 at the Unified School District Office. Those present were Michelle Murk, Jeremiah VanDoren, Robert Miller, Jeff Shamburg, Darrin Hurd and Rani Pecenka, Superintendent Pam Irwin, Administrators Steven Kimmi, Clay Mettlen, Trica McVay, Clerk Cindy Regnier and 12 guests.

Vice President Jeremiah VanDoren called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. The agenda for the meeting was adopted as amended. Motion by Robert Miller, seconded by Rani Pecenka. Carried 6-0.

Motion by Robert Miller to adopt the consent agenda, approval of March 20, 2023, minutes and checks 66073 through 66202 totaling \$735,649.57. Seconded by Jeff Shamburg. Motion carried 6-0.

Rachel Ehlers and Kim Lawson were recognized as Twin Valley Teacher of the Year award recipients.

Angie Webb, Emily Smith, Steven Kimmi and Pam Irwin made a presentation regarding the Title Conference they attended. Tricia McVay and Alexis Murillo presented information from the Character Strong Conference.

Representatives from INA Alert were in attendance to discuss the security systems within the bond project. Motion by Robert Miller that the board go into executive session to discuss security with administration and the INA Alert representatives present for 20 minutes. Seconded by Michelle Murk. Motion carried 6-0. The board entered executive session at 6:57 p.m.

The board reconvened at 7:17 p.m. Motion by Robert Miller to reenter executive session with the same attendees for an additional 13 minutes. Seconded by Michelle Murk. Motion carried 6-0. The board reentered executive session at 7:17 p.m.  
The board reconvened at 7:30 p.m.

Motion by Rani Pecenka to rescind the motion from the March 2023 meeting to bid out the portion of the security project outside the parameters of the original bid and to proceed with the project as presented. Seconded by Robert Miller. Motion carried 6-0.

The proposed truancy process was discussed. Further discussion will take place at a subsequent meeting.

Motion by Robert Miller to approve the resolution allowing for republishing of the budget of the general and at-risk funds in the district. Seconded by Jeff Shamburg. Motion carried 6-0.

Enrollment charges for the 23-24 year were discussed. Action was postponed to allow gathering of more information.  
The board discussed a student activity bank account. Discussion will resume pending further information.

Information was presented concerning district-owned property located in Bennington at the corner of Putnam and Washington Streets. Motion by Jeff Shamburg to sell the property at fair market value. Seconded by Darrin Hurd. Motion carried 6-0.

The board discussed a proposed Loan forgiveness program to possibly be established in the district. Further information will follow.

Motion by Robert Miller to approve the facilities use requests as presented. Seconded by Rani Pecenka. Motion carried 6-0.

The board discussed Continuous Improvement and viewed a Schoology demonstration.

Motion by Robert Miller that the board enter executive session for 20 minutes to discuss personnel with administration present. Seconded by Michelle Murk. Motion carried 6-0. The board entered executive session at 10:15 p.m.  
The board reconvened at 10:35 p.m.

Motion by Robert Miller that the board reenter executive session for 3 minutes with administration to continue discussing personnel. Seconded by Michelle Murk. Motion carried 6-0. The board entered executive session at 10:35 p.m.  
The board reconvened at 10:38 p.m.

Motion by Robert Miller to approve the resignations of Clay Mettlen as Bennington JH/HS Principal, Shawn Pecenka as Technology Director and football, basketball coaching positions, Gavin Fry as Ag Teacher, FFA Sponsor, Freshmen Class sponsor and bus driver, Paula Serrien as building aid, Joanna Jiga as Virtual Spanish teacher, Sadie Garrett as School Nurse, Elizabeth Adams as Tescott Jr. Class Sponsor, Amber VanDoren as Assistant Play Director and Senior Class Co-Sponsor, and Brandy Steerman as PreK aid and bus driver, all effective at the end of the 22-23 school year. Seconded by Michelle Murk. Motion carried 6-0.

Motion by Robert Miller to approve the hiring of Johnilen Gourley as BJH Volleyball Coach, Brittney Menges as BJH Volleyball Assistant Coach and Tammy Jilka as Pre K Teacher/Aid, all effective with the 23-24 school year. Seconded by Rani Pecenka. Motion carried 6-0.

Motion By Robert Miller to approve the out of district applications as recommended by principals. Seconded by Rani Pecenka. Motion carried 6-0.

Vice President Jeremiah VanDoren adjourned the meeting.

Cindy Regnier  
Clerk of the Board