

**BAXTER COMMUNITY SCHOOL DISTRICT  
ANNUAL ORGANIZATIONAL/RETIRING BOARD MEETING  
DECEMBER 13, 2023  
6:00 P.M.**

**PRESENT:** President Cory Robinson, Debbie Meyer, Colette Kunkel, Kim Tichy, Secondary Principal Rob Luther, Elementary Principal Zach Hasselbrink, Superintendent Mickolyn Clapper, and Board Secretary Julie McWhirter. Jon Northrup was absent due to illness.

**OTHERS PRESENT:** Sue Atkinson, Bruce Connelly, Ray Hauser, Tyler Akins, Ashley Kucera

- I. Call to Order:** President Robinson called the board meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.
- II. Approval of Agenda:** Tichy moved, seconded by Meyer, to approve the agenda as presented. Motion carried (4y-0n).
- III. Review of Fiscal Year End 2023 Depository Statements:** Tichy moved, seconded by Meyer, to approve the 2022-23 fiscal year end depository statements for the district's accounts at State Savings Bank. Motion carried (4y-0n).
- IV. Unfinished Business:** None
- V. Review and Acceptance of Abstract of Election:** Meyer moved, seconded by Kunkel, to approve the Abstract of Election for three open seats; 246 votes were for Ray Hauser, 154 votes for Christina Roby, 291 votes for Ashley Kucera, 305 votes for Tyler Akins, 143 votes for incumbent, Kim Tichy, and a scattering of 4 votes for a total of 1143 total votes, as presented. Motion carried (4y-0n).
- VI. Adjournment:** Tichy moved, seconded by Meyer, to adjourn the meeting. The meeting adjourned at 6:02 p.m. Motion carried (4y-0n).

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REGULAR/ORGANIZATIONAL BOARD MEETING  
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**PRESENT:** President Cory Robinson, Tyler Akins, Ashley Kucera, Ray Hauser, Secondary Principal Rob Luther, Elementary Principal Zach Hasselbrink, Superintendent Mickolyn Clapper, and Board Secretary Julie McWhirter. Jon Northrup was absent due to illness.

**OTHERS PRESENT:** Sue Atkinson, Bruce Connelly

- I. Call to Order:** President Robinson called the regular/organizational December meeting to order at 6:02 p.m.  
  
President Robinson thanked Colette Kunkel, Debbie Meyer, and Kim Tichy for their countless hours of commitment in serving the district. Their knowledge will be greatly missed.
- II. Oath of Office:** Tyler Akins, Ray Hauser, and Ashley Kucera were administered the oath of office. Robinson welcomed the new board members and expressed his appreciation for their willingness to serve the district and community.
- III. Election of Board President:** Akins moved, seconded by Kucera, to nominate Cory Robinson for board president. No further nominations were brought forth. Motion carried (4y-0n).
- IV. Approval of Agenda:** Kucera moved, seconded by Hauser, to approve the agenda as presented. Motion carried (4y-0n).

***“Teaching for today and tomorrow, one student at a time.”***

- V. **Adopt Procedures, Date, and Time for Regular Board Meetings:** Akins moved, seconded by Hauser, to continue to use Robert’s Rules of Order for all board meetings and to meet on the third Wednesday of the month with 6:00 p.m. being the normal meeting time for all regular scheduled meetings. Motion carried (4y-0n).
- VI. **Approval of Consent Items:** Hauser moved, seconded by Akins, to approve the payment of bills totaling \$65,131.46 and minutes of the November 15, 2023 board meeting as presented. Motion carried (4y-0n).
- VII. **Correspondence:** State Senator and Chair of the Education Committee, Ken Rozenboom will meet with district leaders on Monday, December 18 to discuss any district concerns.
- VIII. **Public Forum:** Sue Atkinson explained in more detail the email she previously sent to board members and administration. Bruce Connelly requested information regarding the fundraising efforts and current financial resources for the Wellness Center.

IX. **Business Items:**

- A. **PRINCIPALS’ REPORT:** Each month, principals, Rob Luther and Jason Aker, share activities during the past month.

Ms Van Dusen and members gave a presentation and answered questions about their recent trip to the annual FFA convention in Indianapolis, IN.

Mr. Luther commended the food service personnel on the holiday meal they recently served. Secondary classes are decorating classroom doors for the holiday and the winter break activity day will be December 21 with the annual student/staff basketball game, dodgeball, movies and pizza to kick off the winter break. The end of the first semester is December 20. The secondary winter concert held recently was very well attended and those participating in band are increasing. Winter sports are in full swing with the varsity boys’ basketball team being undefeated thus far. For the first time in quite a few years, we have varsity wrestling and basketball cheerleaders. The Baxter Dance Team had a great showing at the state dance competition with Morgan Ratliff receiving first place in her solo performance and Reagan Russell getting third, respectively. The annual Hall of Fame Induction will be December 22 with four inductees: Debbie (Petermeier) Krampe, Tracy Cross, Dylan Hansen, and Travis Lindemoen. The annual staff/community Christmas Jar fundraiser is in full swing and continues with the online auction. In the last nine years, the fundraiser has helped 19 families and raised \$5444.

The elementary, annual giving tree is helping 15 families this year. With Mrs. Crook’s return from maternity leave, the elementary workforce is back to full staff. Mr. Hasselbrink noted how great it is to have her back. This month’s assembly centered on *gratitude* with students making gratitude bracelets. The elementary winter music concert is tomorrow night. The book fair is in full swing in time for Christmas. The BLT (Building Leadership Team) worked on solutions to minimize distractions during lunch periods. Mr. Hasselbrink thanked the cooks for the recent holiday meal they provided. He also reflected on the positive impact high school students have when working with elementary students.

- B. **OPEN ENROLLMENT:** Kucera moved, seconded by Akins, to deny an open enrollment in application from Danielle Bauer for her daughter, Jordyn Arn, as a result of suspension/expulsion, as recommended. Motion carried (4y-0n).

Hauser moved, seconded by Akins, to approve the open enrollment in applications from Ryan and Carrie Frasher for their children, Phillip, Savannah, Reagan, and Lincoln from the Colfax-Mingo CSD to begin second semester, as recommended. Motion carried (4y-0n).

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**C. AT RISK/DROPOUT PREVENTION APPLICATION:** Akins moved, seconded by Hauser, to approve the request to the School Budget Review Committee (SBRC) for Modified Supplemental Amount and Supplemental Aid for the 2024-25 Dropout Prevention Program in the amount of \$95,653, for expenditures necessary to implement the 2024-25 at-risk and dropout prevention program plans as approved by the Baxter Community School District school board. Motion carried (4y-0n).

Roll Call: Yeas: Akins, Kucera, Hauser, Robinson  
Nays: None

**D. FACILITIES/GROUNDS/TRANSPORTATION:** Dr. Clapper updated board members on various equipment and facility insurance claims in process.

**E. SUPERINTENDENT’S REPORT:** Dr. Clapper has begun work on the details for the 2024-25 district calendar with gathering feedback from staff. The newly adopted, full day professional development was a huge success with a majority of positive feedback from teachers. A shared professional development day with Colfax-Mingo CSD is planned in January. The district desk audit which is formerly known as 5-year site visit has been approved by the Department of Education.

**F. PERSONNEL:** Kucera moved, seconded by Hauser, to approve a contract for Ryan Hermes as head varsity boys track coach, as recommended. Motion carried (4y-0n).

**G. EXEMPT SESSION** (as allowed by *Iowa Code Chapter 21.9, Employment Conditions Discussed: To discuss strategy in matters relating to employment conditions of employees not covered by the collective bargaining law*). Akins moved, seconded by Hauser, to enter into Exempt Session at 7:51pm as allowed by Iowa Code Chapter 21.9, Employment Conditions Discussed; to discuss strategy in matters relating to employment conditions of employees not covered by the collective bargaining law. Motion carried (4y-0n).

Roll Call: Yeas: Akins, Kucera, Hauser, Robinson  
Nays: None

Akins moved, seconded by Kucera, to come out of Exempt Session at 9:29pm. Motion carried (4y-0n).

Hauser moved, seconded by Akins, to approve the resignation of Dr. Mickolyn Clapper as superintendent, effective June 30, 2024, as requested. Motion carried (4y-0n).

**XI. Adjournment:** Akins moved, seconded by Kucera, to adjourn the meeting. The meeting adjourned at 9:30 p.m. Motion carried (4y-0n).

The Retiring Board and organizational/regular December board meetings minutes will be presented for approval at the regular January board meeting.

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Board President

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Board Secretary

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date