

**BAXTER COMMUNITY SCHOOL DISTRICT
2023-24 PROPOSED BUDGET PUBLIC HEARING
APRIL 12, 2023
6:00 P.M.**

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

OTHERS PRESENT: Sue Atkinson; Don Akins

Call to Order: President Robinson called the 2023-24 Proposed Budget Public Hearing to order at 6:00 p.m.

2023-24 Budget Hearing: Board members reviewed the proposed budget for the 2023-24 fiscal year.

Adjournment: Northrup moved, seconded by Tichy, to adjourn the meeting. The meeting adjourned at 6:02 p.m. Motion carried (5y-0n).

**BAXTER COMMUNITY SCHOOL DISTRICT
REGULAR BOARD MEETING**

- I. Call to Order:** Board President, Robinson called the regular April board meeting to order at 6:02 p.m.
- II. Approval of Agenda:** Meyer moved, seconded by Tichy approve the agenda as presented. Motion carried (5y-0n).
- III. Approval of Consent Items:** Tichy moved, seconded by Meyer, to approve the payment of bills totaling \$133,975.63 and minutes of the March 8, 2023 regular board meeting, as presented. Motion carried (5y-0n).
- IV. Correspondence:** May is school board appreciation month. Dr. Clapper presented the board members with certificates from IASB (Iowa Association of School Boards) and the district; and thanked them for volunteering countless hours in serving the district.
- V. Public Forum:** Don Akins shared wants/needs for the sports complex which includes security cameras and additional lighting. Sue Atkinson talked about an email she shared earlier with board members.
- VI. Business Items:**
 - A. Principals' Reports:** Each month, principals, Rob Luther and Jason Aker, share activities during the past month.

Agriculture Safety Day was last week. The FFA members and Mrs. Shanks, FFA Sponsor, did a great job. The fine arts night is coming which includes projects and performances from the art department, the speech team, and the vocal and choir groups. Mr. Luther invited board members to attend the annual senior exit interviews. He thanked the para-professional aides who work in our district providing support to our most diverse students. Mr. Luther also thanked volunteers who help during the school day and at extra-curricular activity events. Secondary English students attended Poetry Palooza which is a three-day dynamic, interactive, and integrated performing arts experience that celebrates Midwestern Poets Laureate, cultivates students and emerging talent, and demonstrates the positive power of poetry. Eighth grade girls attended the annual Go Further conference hosted by the Women in Science and Engineering (WiSE) program at Iowa State to learn about various STEM fields, STEM opportunities at

Iowa State, and to interact with STEM role models. Sophomores annually attend DMACC for a tour and learn the types of programs DMACC offers. ISASP testing finished up last week in the secondary building.

Mr. Hasselbrink agreed with Mr. Luther's thoughts on the district's para-professionals and, truly, appreciates what they do. Several elementary field trips are coming up. One of which, is a trip by the fourth graders to the Henry Doorly Zoo in Omaha, NE. Mr. Hasselbrink thanked Dr. Anderson, director of curriculum and instruction; and Mr. Picket and Mrs. Crook, technology coordinators, for all of their work on getting students ISASP tested. A group of elementary teachers recently visited Bondurant-Farrar schools to see how teachers use the 95% Phonics Program in their instructional programs. Mr. Hasselbrink commended FFA Sponsor, Kassy Shanks, and FFA students in engaging elementary students in the Ag Safety day. The elder students answered questions while walking from station to station at the Ag Safety day setup. Professionals contracted by the Iowa Department of Education interviewed elementary administration and teachers regarding the three-year removal process from the ESSA Comprehensive list. The Department's reps were very complimentary of the exhaustive measures admin and teachers took to achieve removal from the list. The elementary ISASP testing kicked off with an assembly to motivate and excite students to their very best on the tests. The testing week included special breakfasts made possible by the food service department. Mr. Hasselbrink expressed his gratitude to the cooks. Fifth graders recently graduated from the DARE program taught by DARE Instruction and Baxter Chief of Police, Bill Daggett.

- B. 2023-24 Proposed District Budget:** Kunkel moved, seconded by Meyer, to approve the 2023-24 District Budget, as requested. The budget includes \$237,700 in the Management fund and 18.70 tax rate which is an increase of 1.22/\$1000 of assessed values after more than five years of a decreasing or steady tax rate. Motion carried (5y-0n).

Roll Call: Yeas: Northrup, Meyer, Kunkel, Tichy, Robinson

Nays: None

- C. Participation in IASB Safety Group Insurance Program:** Meyer moved, seconded by Tichy, to approve the continued participation in the Safety Group Insurance Program, if the district continues its relationship with EMC Insurance, for the 2023-24 fiscal year. Motion carried (5y-0n).
- D. Iowa School Finance Information Services:** Northrup moved, seconded by Meyer, to approve the continuation of its membership with ISFIS, as recommended. Motion carried (5y-0n).
- E. Online school option for 2023-24 school year:** Meyer moved, seconded by Kunkel to approve the continuation of the online option, Edgenuity, as recommended. Motion carried (5y-0n).
- F. Approve Seniors for Graduation:** Meyer moved, seconded by Kunkel, to approve the following seniors for graduation pending successful fulfillment of all graduation requirements: Calysta Archer, Ty Bauman, Jackson Bottorff, Bree Buswell, Mark Butler, Trice Clapper, Samuel Cross, Cody Damman, Ash England, Fairth Engle, Jahlynna Epps, Paige Ewing, Devin Flora, Devan Fredregill, Grace Gruis, Luella Gruis, Lilyan Headlee, Kolton Hill, Emma Kincaid, Bailey Littell, Brian Lust, Abby McReynolds, Kirsten Mehmen, Vanessa Mitchell, Kaylee Noga, Ethan Rainsbarger Carson Scroggins, Mandee Selover, Dalton Shanks, Kelcie Shedd, Cael Shepley, Lane Sliger, Cole Smith, Kendyl Stevenson, Alaina Stouffer, Carly Thompson, Jacob Travis, Brighton Vansice, Cal Leah Wall, Tretyn Wesselink, Jada Yoakum, Jesse Zeimen, and Emma Ziesman, as recommended. Motion carried (5y-0n).

- G. Personnel:** Northrup moved, seconded by Meyer, to approve resignations from Joe Amadeo as HS Social Studies teacher, head wrestling coach, and HS student council sponsor; Samantha Hofmann as MS Science teacher; Ashley Jacobs as elementary teacher and MS volleyball coach; and Kristy Dee as HS volleyball coach, as recommended. Motion carried (5y-0n).

Northrup moved, seconded by Meyer, to approve a contract for Dana Bucklin as assistant MS softball coach, as recommended. Motion carried (5y-0n).

- H. Open Enrollment:** Northrup moved, seconded by Meyer, to approve open enrollment in applications from: Michelle Krier, for her daughter, Lila Dunn, from Newton CSD, for the 2023-24 school year; and Ryan and Carrie Frasher, for their son, Cole, to attend Baxter in the 2023-24 school year, as recommended. Motion carried (5y-0n).

Northrup moved, seconded by Kunkel, to deny an open enrollment in application from Michelle Krier, for her son, Robert Peterson, from Newton CSD, due to *Appropriate Special Education Program Not Available*, for the 2023-24 school year, as recommended. Motion carried (5y-0n).

Morgan Magana has requested that her son, Faustino Jorge Vasquez Magana, attend Newton CSD where his siblings already attend, for the 2023-24 school year.

- I. Facilities, Grounds, and Transportation:** Meyer moved, seconded by Tichy, to approve a joint city/school parking area at Geise Park, paying \$30,000, which is half, from the PPEL/SAVE accounts, as recommended. Motion carried (5y-0n).

- a. **Superintendent's Report:** The Joint City/School Work Session held April 5 was very successful. It was nice to hear about all the great things happening in our community. Administration is working on filling open positions; and trying to find ways to fill some positions without hiring new staff. Keeping any reductions far away from student instruction. We continue to discuss school safety projects and training related to keeping our students and staff safer. The recent sewer issue at the sports complex, as a result of a boring mistake by the local phone/internet company, has been fixed.

- J. BEA Initial Proposal:** Baxter Education Association (BEA) provided their initial proposal for teacher salaries for the 2023-24 school year which includes a \$1,300 increase on the base salary plus lane and step movement.

- K. Exempt Session** (as allowed by Chapter 20, Section 20.17(3), of the Code of Iowa for strategy in the collective bargaining negotiating process): Northrup moved, seconded by Meyer, to enter into Exempt Session at 7:11 pm as allowed by Chapter 20, Section 20.17(3), of the Code of Iowa for strategy in the collective bargaining negotiating process, as requested. Motion carried (5y-0n).

Kunkel moved, seconded by Meyer, to exit Exempt Session at 7:46pm, as requested. Motion carried (5y-0n).

- L. Initial Proposal to BEA (Baxter Education Association):** Tichy moved, seconded by Meyer, to approve the district's initial proposal to the BEA of \$750 on the base salary plus step and lane movement, as decided. Motion carried (5y-0n).

- VII. Adjournment:** Northrup moved, seconded by Tichy adjourn the meeting. The meeting adjourned at 7:47 p.m. Motion carried (5y-0n).

The regular April meeting minutes will be presented for approval at the regular May board meeting.

Board President

Date

Board Secretary

Date