

**BAXTER COMMUNITY SCHOOL DISTRICT
REGULAR BOARD MEETING
FEBRUARY 21, 2024
6P.M.**

PRESENT: President Cory Robinson, Jon Northrup, Tyler Akins, Ashley Kucera, Ray Hauser, Principals, Rob Luther and Zach Hasselbrink, Superintendent, Mickolyn Clapper, and Board Secretary, Julie McWhirter

OTHERS PRESENT: Sue Atkinson; Secondary English teacher, Chris Smith, Brianna Winfield, Kristina Winfield

- I. Call to Order:** President Robinson called the January meeting to order at 6:00 P.M.
- II. Approval of Agenda:** Northrup moved, seconded by Akins, to approve the agenda as amended to strike item *I. Exempt Session*. Motion carried (5y-0n).
- III. Approval of Consent Items:** Northrup moved, seconded by Kucera, to approve the payment of bills totaling \$321,153.56 and minutes of the January 17, 2024 board meeting as presented. Motion carried (5y-0n).
- IV. Correspondence:** None.
- V. Public Forum:** Sue Atkinson explained more about the previous email she sent to board members. Brianna Winfield, speech participant, requested that speech banners be displayed in a different location than the currently are.
- VI. Business Items:**
 - A. Principals Reports:** Each month, principals, Rob Luther and Zach Hasselbrink, share activities during the past month.

Mr. Luther congratulated the speech team- large group on their All-State Speech nomination. Those participating in large group are Bri Winfield, Callie Cross, Max Handorff, and Grant Anderegg. FFA week was this week. Voc Ag teacher, Anna Van Dusen did a great job of getting all students involved with Ag relays and FFA members reading to elementary classes. The high school boys' basketball team won this year's conference title making it the third consecutive year winning. The Iowa Star Conference All Star game will be coach by our own, Coach Zach Hasselbrink. Recently held were parent teacher conferences. While parents are strongly encouraged to attend the conferences, the fall conferences tend to have the better parent turnout at the secondary level. A number of students were asked to sit on interview committees for the superintendent and secondary principal interviews.

Both principals commended our Big Bolt/Little Bolt program and Anna Travis for leading the program. Such a unique program strongly exists because our elementary and secondary buildings are located in the same facility. This allows our "Big Bolts,"-secondary students- to mentor our "Little Bolts"-elementary students. Elementary students have come to depend on this program so much that when the schedule does not allow meeting, elementary students are truly disheartened not seeing their Big Bolt. However because all students are in the same facility and teachers have been forgiving to interrupt class to let the "Little Bolt" see their "Big Bolt." There are 64 diverse secondary students participating as "Big Bolts."

"Teaching for today and tomorrow, one student at a time."

Recently, the elementary principal, instructional coach, and guidance counselors led the winter festival, which focuses on STEM and guidance lessons. This partial day activity allows elementary teachers to collaborate, work on classroom records, or any miscellaneous tasks needing finished. Elementary students went to an Iowa Wolves game as a reward if they were successful in reading for 500 minutes. Mr. Hasselbrink shared some FAST data, which helps teachers to individualize learning to students' needs. Solution Tree named Baxter Elementary School a Model PLC (Professional Learning Community). A Model PLC school must 1) demonstrate a commitment to PLC at Work® concepts; 2) implement those concepts for at least three years; and 3) present clear evidence of improved student learning.

- B. FYR 2022 District Audit:** Kucera moved, seconded by Hauser, to approve the 2021-22 District Audit as presented. Motion carried (5y-0n).

Normally, this audit would have been presented in early 2023; however, because of extenuating circumstances with the auditing firm, we have just recently received it.

- C. Resolution to approve 101% Budget Guarantee:** Northrup moved, seconded by Kucera, to approve the Resolution to approve the 101% Budget Guarantee, as requested. Motion carried (5y-0n).

The resolution is as follows:

RESOLVED, that the Board of Directors of Baxter Community School District, will levy property taxes for fiscal year 2024-2025 for the regular program budget adjustment as allowed under section 257.14, Code of Iowa."

Roll Call: Yeas: Northrup, Akins, Kucera, Hauser, Robinson

Nays: None

- D. Approve Title I Program for the 2024-25 school year:** Kucera moved, seconded by Hauser, to approve the Title I Program for the 2024-25 school year, as recommended. The continuation of this program provides additional student support for reading. Motion carried (5y-0n).

Northrup moved, seconded by Hauser, to approve amendments to Board Policy Code 1003.7 Parent and Family Engagement; Board Policy Code 1003.7R1 Parent and Family Engagement Regulations; and Board Policy Code 401.3 Licensed Employee Qualifications, Recruitment, and Selection; and board members voted to waive the second reading, as recommended. Motion carried (5y-0n).

- E. Open Enrollment:** Hauser moved, seconded by Akins, to approve open enrollment in applications from Michelle Eibs Atcher for her daughter, Blaire Janae Jutting, to attend Baxter CSD from East Marshall; and from Rebecca Jochems, for her daughter, Madison Pitt, to attend Baxter CSD from Lynnville-Sully, as recommended. Motion carried (5y-0n).

- F. Personnel:** Akins moved, seconded by Hauser, to approve resignations from Emily Schneider as middle school math teacher; from Rob Luther as secondary principal; from Kristin Luther as secondary teacher and coach; and from Cassie Applegate-Brummel as cheer coach, as requested. Motion carried (5y-0n).

Kucera moved, seconded by Hauser, to approve a contract for Chris Petersen as superintendent to be shared with another district, as recommended. Motion carried (5y-0n).

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G. Facilities/Grounds/Transportation: Dr. Clapper and business manager, Julie McWhirter, shared information from 413 Solutions Inc about solar power submission for the district. They will continue to research solar options.

H. Superintendent Report: The admin team and maintenance director, Bill Hansen met with Jamey Robinson, the new Jasper County EMS director, to discuss several topics including student and staff training.

Recently, Dr. Clapper met with legislative leaders and the director of the Iowa Department of Education to discuss changes at the AEA's which Governor Reynolds highlighted in her Condition of the State address.

XI. Adjournment: Northrup moved, seconded by Akins to adjourn the meeting. The meeting adjourned at 7:51pm. Motion carried (5y-0n).

The regular February board meeting minutes will be presented for approval at the regular March board meeting.

Board President

Date

Board Secretary

Date

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