

**Beaver Dam Unified School District  
Board of Education Proceedings**

**December 13, 2021**

The regular meeting of the Beaver Dam Unified School District Board of Education was held on the above date at Beaver Dam High School. President, Chad Prieve, called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. Board members present: Bev Beal-Loeck, Marge Jorgensen, John Kraus, Jr., Mary Kuntz, Maria Mason, Lisa Panzer, Chad Prieve, Gary Spielman, and Joanne Tyjeski. Board members absent: None.

Mr. Prieve led in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Jorgensen moved, Spielman seconded, to approve the minutes from the regular meeting on November 8, 2021, and the special meeting on November 15, 2021, as presented.

The motion was adopted by unanimous vote.

Mr. Prieve welcomed visitors.

Ms. Beal-Loeck, at the request of the President, announced the board may recess into closed session per Wis. Stat. §19.85 (1)(c) considering employment, promotion, compensation or performance evaluation data of any public employee over which the governmental body has jurisdiction or exercises responsibility, specifically to discuss and possibly take action regarding the employment of a specific employee. The board will reconvene into open session for the possible transaction of business and adjournment.

Kraus moved, Tyjeski seconded, to adopt the agenda as presented.

The motion was adopted by unanimous vote.

Mr. Krause, Prairie View Elementary School Principal, Ms. Dwyer, Prairie View Elementary School Associate Principal, along with Ms. Alvin, Curriculum Coach, Ms. Merkel, ELL Teacher, Ms. Brandl, Student Council Advisor, and members of the Student Council presented the School of the Month report for Prairie View Elementary School. They shared their School Success Plan and the action steps they are using to accomplish their plan goals. They also reported on staff professional development commitment, school culture and engagement, student council activities, and community outreach activities

Mr. Woreck, District Facility and Safety Officer, presented the District Safety Drills report. The state requires school boards to act by January 1 on school safety drills to ensure they are conducted according to their school safety plan.

Kraus moved, Jorgensen seconded, to officially receive and approve the confirmation of the drills as submitted by the building administrators, as is required by Act 143.

The motion was adopted by unanimous vote.

Mr. DiStefano, Superintendent, provided an update on the Return to Learn Plan. He reported that the district continues to meet weekly with the Dodge County Health Department and monitor district boundary reports. There are no significant changes to guidance updates from the CDC, AAP, DHS, or DPI regarding the Omicron variant or COVID-19 and other variants. He provided an update on current COVID-19 metrics, including specific realities related to the district and other area school districts.

Kraus moved, Tyjeski seconded, to lift the mask mandate effective immediately at the elementary level and that masks are highly recommended, but optional.

The motion was adopted by the following vote: Aye – Kraus, Kuntz, Mason, Prieve, Spielman, Tyjeski, and Beal-Loeck. No - Jorgensen and Panzer.

The board asked for clarification on the quarantine protocols. Mr. DiStefano explained the district follows the standards from local and state health departments, and the CDC. The board asked for updated quarantine protocols to be presented at the January regular monthly board meeting.

Ms. Malkovich, Director of Business Services, presented a donation in the amount of \$12,550 from the Beaver Dam Area Community Foundation for the Beaver Dam Unified School District Education Fund mini-grant process. The donation was awarded for 8 different approved projects.

Jorgensen moved, Spielman seconded, to accept the donation from the Beaver Dam Area Community Foundation for the Education Fund for the mini grant process as presented.

The motion was adopted by unanimous vote.

Board members recognized Rich Zeman for his last concert with the Beaver Dam Area Orchestra after 30 years of service. They also recognized Greg Ritchart, Auditorium Technician, for his technical work with the community groups who use the auditorium. Staff and students who participate and are involved in many community events and activities were recognized. In addition, the amount of food collected was impressive and the amount collected by each school was amazing.

Mr. DiStefano recognized parents and students who raised concerns about inappropriate Instagram accounts that referenced the High School and Middle School and then helped the district promote good citizenship and behavior. He gave a shout out to the district's Facilities and Safety team for being on top of any issues for weekend activities.

Ms. DeVries, Board of Education Student Representative, reported the High School had an assembly that featured a speaker who spoke about real-life problems students have and gave good strategies to have a better school culture. She also shared that it is nice to have fans back at sporting events again and that there are a lot of holiday concerts coming up this week.

Ms. Jorgensen, Operations Committee member, reported that the committee did not meet. The next meeting is scheduled for January 24, 2022.

Ms. Panzer, Teaching and Learning Committee Chair, reported the committee did not meet. The next meeting is scheduled for January 17, 2022.

Board members shared the engagement opportunities they participated in over the past month.

Mr. Prieve provided a brief summary of the board workshop on the Five-Year Facility Plan.

Ms. Malkovich presented a list of priority and discretionary projects for Summer 2022 for board consideration. She recommended completing the priority projects, which include Prairie View Elementary School improvements, duct cleaning at each elementary school, Middle School HVAC, moving the tech hub from the ESC-South to the High School, razing the ESC-South, and modifying the ESC-North. The recommendation also included the addition of either a new softball field and High School Auditorium upgrades, or resurfacing the track and upgrading the High School Auditorium, with additional upgrades if feasible.

Spielman moved, Kraus seconded, to complete the Summer 2022 priority projects in the amount of \$850,000 as presented, including the addition to resurface the track and upgrade the high school auditorium, with flexibility for administration to spend more than \$200,000 on the auditorium upgrades, but remain under budget.

The motion was adopted by the following vote: Aye – Kraus, Kuntz, Mason, Panzer, Prieve, Spielman, Tyjeski, Beal-Loeck, and Jorgensen. No-None.

Beal-Loeck moved, Jorgensen seconded, the board recess into closed session per Wis. Stat. §19.85 (1)(c) considering employment, promotion, compensation or performance evaluation data of any public employee over which the governmental body has jurisdiction or exercises responsibility, specifically to discuss and possibly take action regarding the employment of a specific employee. The board will reconvene into open session for the possible transaction of business and adjournment.

The motion was adopted by the following vote: Aye – Kuntz, Mason, Panzer, Prieve, Spielman, Tyjeski, Beal-Loeck, Jorgensen, and Kraus. No-None.

During closed session, there was discussion regarding the employment of a specific employee. The board adopted a motion regarding the employment of a specific employee.

The motion was adopted by unanimous vote.

Jorgensen moved, Tyjeski seconded, to reconvene into open session.

The motion was adopted by unanimous vote.

Panzer moved, Beal-Loeck seconded, to approve the following resignation/retirements: Kelli Dercks-Art Teacher-High School (Retirement effective 10/10/22); Dawn DiNicola-Special Education Teacher-High School (Resignation effective 12/10/21); and Sarah Grey-Literacy Support Teacher-Lincoln Elementary School (Retirement effective end of the 2021-22 school year).

The motion was adopted by unanimous vote.

Panzer moved, Jorgensen seconded, to approve the following leaves of absence: Jim Braemer-Grade 7 Math Teacher-Middle School (Medical Leave 1/17/22-TBD) and Julia Liebenthal-Art Teacher-Elementary (Medical Leave 5/24/22 -TBD).

The motion was adopted by unanimous vote.

Panzer moved, Jorgensen seconded, to approve the following appointments: Shelly Ehlenbeck-Substitute Teacher-Elementary Schools (LTE); Tracey Ewing-Special Education Teacher-Elementary Schools; Mykayla Kuhn-Grade 7 Math Teacher-Middle School; and Laura McCauley-Substitute Teacher-Middle School (LTE).

The motion was adopted by the following vote: Aye – Mason, Panzer, Prieve, Spielman, Tyjeski, Beal-Loeck, Jorgensen, Kraus, and Kuntz. No-None.

Mr. DiStefano presented board policy 8510 – Wellness for first reading. The District Wellness Committee reviewed the policy as required. It will be presented for adoption at the January regular monthly board meeting.

Tyjeski moved, Spielman seconded, to approve the payment of financial claims (Voucher #446, #447, #448, and #449) for District Credit Card, District Insurances, ACH File, Manual Check, Net Payroll, Payroll Taxes, WEA Trust Advantage, Health Savings Account, Health Savings Account (District), Fidelity, Franklin, WEA TSA, Wisconsin Retirement System, and Payroll Related Voucher for a total of \$3,916,998.44. (A listing of these vouchers can be found in the Accounts Payable Check Register.)

The motion was adopted by the following vote: Aye – Panzer, Prieve, Spielman, Tyjeski, Beal-Loeck, Jorgensen, Kraus, Kuntz, and Mason. No - None.

Beal-Loeck moved, Tyjeski seconded, to adjourn the meeting.

The motion was adopted by unanimous vote and the meeting was adjourned at 8:44 p.m.

/s/  
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*Chad Prieve, President*

/s/  
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*Marge Jorgensen, Clerk*