Belle Plaine, Iowa
March 11, 2026 Regular Meeting

The regular of the Belle Plaine Community School District Board of Education was held on Wednesday, March 11, 2026 at 6:00 p.m. in the board room at Longfellow Elementary, Belle Plaine.

Members Present:	Val Coffman, Andy Neuhaus, Scott Frank, Tylar Gallagher
Members Absent:	Alicia Jacobi
Administration Present:	Chad Straight, Heather Coover, Kelly Scott
Board Secretary/Treasurer Present:	Stacey Kolars
Visitors Present:	Interested Patrons
Press Representative:	None

The meeting was called to order by President Coffman at 6:00 p.m.

AGENDA

Motion Gallagher, second Frank to approve the agenda with the addendum with business item #2-a regarding Action/Discussion on Action/Discussion on Concussion Protocol and Athletic Trainer Recommendations. All voted, "aye." Motion carried.

CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS

The consent agenda items were considered. There was motion by Frank, second by Gallagher to approve the consent agenda items. All voted, "aye." Motion carried. The consent agenda items that were approved are listed below:

1. Approval of the minutes of the February 11, 2026 Board Meeting, the February 19, 2026 Board Workshop, and the March 4, 2026 Special Board Meeting.
2. Approval of bills, payroll and financial statements
3. Personnel/Business Items:
    a. Acceptance of Resignations-Kelly Weeda from wrestling cheer sponsor.

PRINCIPAL REPORTS-Secondary Principal, Kelly Scott and Elementary Principal, Heather Coover gave their respective reports to the board.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Superintendent Straight announced that the school's construction class' house has been sold. Thank you to Bob Storm for assisting us with that process.

COMMUNICATIONS

Thank you to the Athletic Boosters for the Plainsmen shirts. There is a human trafficking presentation hosted by the King Theater on March 23, 2026 at 6:30 p.m.

OLD BUSINESS

Action/Discussion on PPEL/SAVE Projects-

There will be a building walk-through with Maintenance Director, Rod Blount about project changes and planning for long-term needs for projects prior to the April 8, 2026 meeting at 5:00 p.m. Board members will meet at the high school.

BUSINESS ITEMS

1. Approval of the Employment of Personnel-There was motion by Neuhaus, second by Gallagher to approve Teresa Ward as assistant track volunteer. All voted, "aye." Motion carried.

2. Discussion on OPN Architect Bond Project Update- An architect from OPN was present to update the board on the current timeline for proceeding with the bond project, and also give a current overview of plans and design changes. No action was taken on this item.

2-a Action/Discussion on Concussion Protocol and Athletic Trainer Recommendations-Chance Baburek, BP Athletic Trainer was present at the meeting to inform the board of the district's concussion policy. There have been three changes in protocol. After discussion, there was motion by Gallagher, second by Neuhaus to move forward with implementing the new concussion district policy as soon as it is revised and given to the board to look over. All voted, "aye." Motion carried.

3. Focus on Education: J Term- Secondary high school teachers, Michelle Oliver and Julie Mantz were present at the meeting to inform the board about the Jr/Sr High School's J Term and the activities and opportunities the students have during this time between the first and second semesters. Principal Scott also communicated to the board that on March 23rd Mike Donahue, author and presenter will be visiting the district to hold different student level "workshops" and will present to the entire secondary student body regarding positivity and culture/anti-bullying behaviors and communications. No action was taken on this item.

4. Action/Discussion on Approving Students for Graduation and Issuance of Diplomas- A letter from Principal Scott to the school board was presented with a list of senior class members who were eligible to graduate upon successful completion of the second semester of the 2025-2026 year. After review, there was motion by Neuhaus, second by Gallagher to approve the listing of students for graduation and issuance of diplomas for the 2025-2026 school year. All voted, "aye." Motion carried.

5. Action/Discussion on Out-of-State Field Trips-There was motion by Frank, second by Neuhaus to approve out-of-state field trips for the Ag Class, Surviving Single class and the senior trip. All voted, "aye." Motion carried.

6. Action/Discussion on Mesh Fence Sign- Superintendent Straight updated the board on the current offering from Lashier regarding the mesh fence sign. After discussion, there was motion by Gallagher, second by Frank to give Superintendent Straight the latitude to make a decision regarding the font and to approve the purchase of a mesh fence sign that is proportional to the height of the fence. All voted, "aye." Motion carried.

7. Action/Discussion on 28E Agreement for Local Government Risk Pool - Superintendent Straight presented a 28E agreement between the district and the Iowa LGRP regarding stabilization of natural gas costs within the district. The district has participated in the program for the past several years. After discussion, there was motion by Frank, second by Neuhuas to approve the annual 28E agreement with Iowa LGRP. All voted, "aye." Motion carried.

8. Action/Discussion on Summer School-There was motion by Neuhaus, second by Gallagher to approve the offering of summer school for the 2025-2026 school year. All voted, "aye." Motion carried.

9. Action/Discussion on East Marshall Application to the SICL Conferences- After brief discussion, there was motion by Frank, second by Neuhaus to approve the East Marshall CSD's application for admission into the SICL Conference. All voted, "aye." Motion carried.

10. Discussion on Progress Monitoring Board Priorities-
The board discussed updating its board priorities focusing on Academic priorities during this discussion. The next step in this process will be to structure the priorities and provide a framework for the principals in the April/May meetings so they are able to bring something back prior to the 2026-2027 school year.

There was motion by Neuhaus, second by Gallagher to adjourn the meeting at 8:12 p.m. All voted, "aye." Motion carried.

Valerie Coffman, Board President

Stacey Kolars, Board Secretary/Treasurer/
Business Manager