BENSENVILLE SCHOOL DISTRICT 2 BOARD OF EDUCATION

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MISSION STATEMENT
Igniting a lifelong desire to learn and succeed in an ever-changing world.

BENSENVILLE
SCHOOL DISTRICT 2

BOARD BRIEFS: February 26, 2025 – Regular Meeting

Meeting Agenda - This meeting is the rescheduled meeting from February 19, 2025

Celebration - BMS Athletics: In their first year as Blackhawk Middle School's co-athletic directors, Lauren Engle and Sarah Taylor have already made a significant impact on the school's athletic program. They've organized spirit wear sales, pack-the-stands promotions, a breast cancer awareness campaign, a pep band performance, and even halftime games of horse and Bozo Buckets. In addition, they have begun hosting season-ending celebrations to recognize eighth-graders for their hard work and dedication, and to thank the parents, family, friends, coaches, and staff for their vital role in making these opportunities possible for our students. They have also worked hard at meeting students' individual health needs to ensure they can participate safely in sporting events they are passionate about.

MAP Data Presentation: Dr. Anne Paonessa, Assistant Superintendent for Teaching & Learning, and principals from all three schools presented a summary of the District's scores in NWEA MAP testing. Those scores in math and literacy all showed encouraging growth year over year. Teachers and administrators have already dug into the MAP data and used their analysis of these test scores to develop exciting and detailed plans to inform and target their instruction. This data-driven approach to school improvement, as well as recent and upcoming adoptions of new math and literacy programs, have positioned the District to build on this progress and continue increasing students' growth and achievement moving forward.

Literacy Adoption Update: Dr. Anne Paonessa, Assistant Superintendent for Teaching & Learning, updated the Board on the Bensenville 2 Literacy Committee's work to adopt new K-8 literacy resources. This year, the District has piloted two literacy programs and, based upon the committee's recommendation, will adopt new K-8 literacy resources from HMH for introduction in the 20 25-2026 school year. The HMH program stood out because it featured research-based literacy instruction in both Spanish and English, culturally-responsive and engaging texts, writing instruction, bilingual and biliteracy support, embedded English language development strategies, a combination of print and digital resources, data-driven personalization, and teacher support and professional development. In addition, Fenton has also adopted HMH which will allow for both districts to collaborate through a comprehensive K-12 literacy continuum. The funding for HMH literacy program will be presented to the Board for review and approval in March.

Appointment of Bensenville Community Foundation Representative: James Stoltman was appointed to serve as the Board representative to the Bensenville Community Foundation.

Waive Taxes and Make Transfers for Alternate Revenue Bonds: Following a public hearing, the Board approved a resolution abating property taxes related to the Series 2016 and Series 2020 bonds. To pay the debt service due on these bonds in 2025, the Board also approved a resolution transferring funds from the Education Fund in the Operations & Maintenance Fund, and a resolution transferring funds from the Operations & Maintenance Fund to the Debt Service Fund.

Approval of Health Insurance for Bus Drivers: The Board authorized insurance eligibility beginning July 1 for bus drivers who are assigned at least 20 hours per week. This change should help the District recruit additional drivers and retain current drivers. The District's contribution for all coverages will be 85 percent of the single-coverage contribution offered to full-time staff.

First Reading of Policy Revisions: The Board considered proposed changes to policy 4-110 - Transportation, 5-90 - Abused and Neglected Child Reporting, 6-30 - Organization of Instruction, 6-110 - Programs for Students At Risk of Academic Failure and/or Dropping Out of School and Graduation Incentives Program, and 6-150 - Home and Hospital Instruction

Next meeting: The Board's next regular business meeting will be held at 6:30 p.m. Wednesday, March 19, in the Lifelong Learning Center at the Educational Administration Center, 210 S. Church Road, Bensenville, IL, 60106.