

**Tentative minutes of the Bethel Board of Education Regular Meeting - Superintendent's Budget Presentation held on January 23, 2014, in Board of Education Conf. Room E.**

**Attendance:** None.

**Administrative Attendance:** K. Smith, J. Jordan, T. Yonsky, L. Pica, D. Muharem, T. Soucy, C. Troetti, E. DiBiase, M. Rutledge, K. Brooks

**L. Craybas, Chairman, called the meeting to order at 6:30 PM.**

**Board Members Present: Attendance Taken at 6:30 PM:**

**Present Board Members:**

Mrs. Jennifer Ackerman  
Mr. Stuart Carlsen  
Mr. Scott Clayton  
Mr. Larry Craybas  
Mrs. Kristen Lacey  
Mrs. Robin Renner

**Absent Board Members:**

Mr. William Duff  
Mr. Nicholas Hoffman  
Mrs. Melanie O'Brien

**Updated Attendance:**

Mr. Nicholas Hoffman was updated to present at: 6:32 PM  
Mrs. Melanie O'Brien was updated to present at: 6:36 PM  
Mr. William Duff was updated to present at: 6:45 PM

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TOWN OF BETHEL  
TOWN CLERK

**1. Call to Order**

- 1.A. Roll Call for Quorum
- 1.B. Pledge of Allegiance

**Motion Passed:** Move to move the Superintendent's Budget Presentation to after Audience Participation. Passed with a motion by Mr. Larry Craybas and a second by Mr. Stuart Carlsen.

Mrs. Jennifer Ackerman	Yes
Mr. Stuart Carlsen	Yes
Mr. Scott Clayton	Yes
Mr. Larry Craybas	Yes
Mr. William Duff	Yes
Mr. Nicholas Hoffman	Yes
Mrs. Kristen Lacey	Yes
Mrs. Melanie O'Brien	Yes
Mrs. Robin Renner	Yes

**2. Board Recognition/A Salute to Excellence**

Discussion:

The Board recognized and congratulated Michele Walsh on being nominated to the SENG Honor Roll, a prestigious national award by SENG, Supporting Emotional Needs of the Gifted.

### 3. Correspondence

Discussion:

Letter from S. Kenneth Schonberg, M.D. complimenting BMS Students' Behavior at a recent BMS event.

### 4. Consent Calendar

#### 4.A. Approval of Minutes

4.A.1. December 19, 2013

4.A.2. December 19, 2013 - Special Meeting

**Motion Passed:** Move to approve the Consent Calendar. Passed with a motion by Mr. Stuart Carlsen and a second by Mr. Nicholas Hoffman.

Mrs. Jennifer Ackerman	Yes
Mr. Stuart Carlsen	Yes
Mr. Scott Clayton	Yes
Mr. Larry Craybas	Yes
Mr. William Duff	Yes
Mr. Nicholas Hoffman	Yes
Mrs. Kristen Lacey	Yes
Mrs. Melanie O'Brien	Yes
Mrs. Robin Renner	Yes

### 5. Audience Participation

Discussion:

None.

### 6. Superintendent's Recommended 2014-2015 Education Budget

Discussion:

Dr. Smith, Dr. Jordan, and Ms. Yonsky presented the 2014-2015 Education Budget. They spoke about the vision of the Board of Education, the context of the budget, and the many successes in the Bethel schools.

Dr. Smith is recommending a 3.49% increase for the 2014-2015 Education Budget.

\$411,373 Increase to Salary Account: Increase of 1.50%

\$861,533 Increase to Benefit Accounts: Increase of 11.89%

\$97,251 Increase to Purchased Professional Services: Increase of 18.17%

\$31,729 Decrease to Purchased Property Services: Decrease of 5.90%

\$44,975 Other Purchased Services: Increase 1.12%

\$20,275 Supplies: Increase 1.98%

\$23,150 Equipment: Increase 20.52%

\$135 Dues & Fees: Increase 0.23%

## Summary

Proposed Budget for 2014-2015:  
\$42,333,901

3.49% increase - (2.06% for health/1.43 total non-health)

The Board recessed 7:41 PM - 7:46 PM.

**Motion Passed:** Move to send the 460 Account Proposal developed by the administration to the Resource Management & Business Operations Subcommittee. Passed with a motion by Mr. Larry Craybas and a second by Mr. Stuart Carlsen.

Mrs. Jennifer Ackerman	Yes
Mr. Stuart Carlsen	Yes
Mr. Scott Clayton	Yes
Mr. Larry Craybas	Yes
Mr. William Duff	Yes
Mr. Nicholas Hoffman	Yes
Mrs. Kristen Lacey	Yes
Mrs. Melanie O'Brien	Yes
Mrs. Robin Renner	Yes

## 7. Administrative/Board Member Update

### 7.A. Report on School Psychologist's Position

#### Discussion:

Linda Pica, Director of Special Education, reported to the Board on the impact of the reinstatement of the School Psychologist position. The Board reinstated a full-time school psychologist position in the 2013-14 school year. The position had been lost to budget cuts in 2009.

- We have increased school psychology services at Bethel High School, Bethel Middle School, and Johnson School. Services are now: Bethel HS- full time; Bethel Middle School- full time; Johnson School .8 FTE. Both Berry and Rockwell remained at .6 each.
- We have recouped some of those "lost resources" of our school psychologists that we weren't able to tap into before. The effects of adding back this position are across all schools and psychologists. Some highlights are:
  - We have increased school psychologists' involvement in the many and varied proactive and preventative measures/interventions that we utilize in the Bethel Public Schools to influence the healthy academic, social, emotional, and behavioral development of our students. These include:
    - Involvement in SRBI, (the CT Response to Intervention model used in our schools) to address students' problems in academic and social/emotional learning;
    - Early identification of, and response to, students' problems.
    - Providing assessment, counseling, and intervention services to students, particularly those with mental health concerns;
    - Prevention and Intervention in bullying matters and assuring a safe school climate;
    - Positive behavioral interventions and supports (PBIS);
    - Functional behavioral assessment and behavioral intervention planning;
    - Response to students who have been bullied or who have engaged in bullying behaviors.
    - We have increased the availability of school psychologists and their role in our efforts and

- capacity in crisis planning and response as well as intervention for students at risk.
- We have increased our school psychologists' presence and involvement in district and school teams in multiple areas.
- A significant role of the school psychologist is as a consultant to staff, parents, and students. We have increased the availability and engagement of our school psychologists in their consultative role across all schools, with administrators, staff, and parents.
- School psychologists are the professionals in our district who are qualified to conduct psychoeducational evaluations. Conducting these evaluations is required to fulfill our legal responsibility for "Child Find" of students with disabilities. It is also a means of determining the underlying factors interfering with a child's learning academically, emotionally, socially, behaviorally.
- We have focused on training school psychologists in varied topics to develop further expertise in the topics of greatest relevance to our district: crisis/violence prevention and reaction, assuring a safe school climate, working with students with mental health needs, and assuring students' academic achievement.

**8. Reports to the Board**

**8.A. Curriculum**

**8.A.1. U.S. History 32 Curriculum**

**Motion Passed:** Move to approve the newly revised United States History curriculum. Passed with a motion by Mrs. Robin Renner and a second by Mrs. Melanie O'Brien.

Mrs. Jennifer Ackerman	Yes
Mr. Stuart Carlsen	Yes
Mr. Scott Clayton	Yes
Mr. Larry Craybas	Yes
Mr. William Duff	Yes
Mr. Nicholas Hoffman	Yes
Mrs. Kristen Lacey	Yes
Mrs. Melanie O'Brien	Yes
Mrs. Robin Renner	Yes

**8.A.2. Algebra II 31 Curriculum**

**8.A.3. Algebra II 32 Curriculum**

**8.A.4. Algebra II 33 Curriculum**

**Motion Passed:** Move to approve the Algebra II 31, 32, and 33 curriculum. Passed with a motion by Mrs. Robin Renner and a second by Mr. Scott Clayton.

Mrs. Jennifer Ackerman	Yes
Mr. Stuart Carlsen	Yes
Mr. Scott Clayton	Yes
Mr. Larry Craybas	Yes
Mr. William Duff	Yes
Mr. Nicholas Hoffman	Yes
Mrs. Kristen Lacey	Yes
Mrs. Melanie O'Brien	Yes
Mrs. Robin Renner	Yes

### 8.A.5. Plane Geometry 21

**Motion Passed:** Move to approve the Plane Geometry 21 curriculum. Passed with a motion by Mrs. Robin Renner and a second by Mrs. Melanie O'Brien.

Mrs. Jennifer Ackerman	Yes
Mr. Stuart Carlsen	Yes
Mr. Scott Clayton	Yes
Mr. Larry Craybas	Yes
Mr. William Duff	Yes
Mr. Nicholas Hoffman	Yes
Mrs. Kristen Lacey	Yes
Mrs. Melanie O'Brien	Yes
Mrs. Robin Renner	Yes

### 8.B. Policy

#### 8.B.1. First Reading

##### 8.B.1.a. Safety & Security Policies

8.B.1.a.1. Policy 3516 - Safety & Security

8.B.1.a.2. Policy 3517 - Security of Buildings and Grounds

8.B.1.a.3. Policy 5142 - Student Safety

8.B.1.a.4. Regulation 5142.4 - School Resource Officer

8.B.1.a.5. Policy/Regulation 5141.6 - Crisis Response

8.B.1.a.6. Policy 6114 - Emergencies and Disaster Preparedness

**Motion Passed:** Move to recommend the following Safety & Security Policies be submitted to the Board for a First Reading:

Policy 3516 - Safety & Security

Policy 3517 - Security of Buildings and Grounds

Policy 5142 - Student Safety

Regulation 5142.4 - School Resource Officer

Policy/Regulation 5141.6 - Crisis Response

Policy 6114 - Emergencies and Disaster Preparedness

Passed with a motion by Mrs. Melanie O'Brien and a second by Mr. Stuart Carlsen.

Mrs. Jennifer Ackerman	Yes
Mr. Stuart Carlsen	Yes
Mr. Scott Clayton	Yes
Mr. Larry Craybas	Yes
Mr. William Duff	Yes
Mr. Nicholas Hoffman	Yes
Mrs. Kristen Lacey	Yes
Mrs. Melanie O'Brien	Yes
Mrs. Robin Renner	Yes

### 8.C. Finance

#### 8.C.1. Budget Transfers

Discussion:

Ms. Yonsky, Director of Fiscal Services, reviewed the budget transfers with the Board.

**Motion Passed:** Move to approve the 7/1/13 - 12/13/13 budget transfers as delineated by the Director of Fiscal Services. Passed with a motion by Mr. Stuart Carlsen and a second by Mrs. Kristen Lacey.

Mrs. Jennifer Ackerman	Yes
Mr. Stuart Carlsen	Yes
Mr. Scott Clayton	Yes
Mr. Larry Craybas	Yes
Mr. William Duff	Yes
Mr. Nicholas Hoffman	Yes
Mrs. Kristen Lacey	Yes
Mrs. Melanie O'Brien	Yes
Mrs. Robin Renner	Yes

## **8.D. Personnel**

### **8.D.1. Resignations/Appointments**

**Motion Passed:** Move to accept the resignations as outlined. Passed with a motion by Mrs. Robin Renner and a second by Mrs. Kristen Lacey.

Mrs. Jennifer Ackerman	Yes
Mr. Stuart Carlsen	Yes
Mr. Scott Clayton	Yes
Mr. Larry Craybas	Yes
Mr. William Duff	Yes
Mr. Nicholas Hoffman	Yes
Mrs. Kristen Lacey	Yes
Mrs. Melanie O'Brien	Yes
Mrs. Robin Renner	Yes

Discussion:

Mr. Craybas distributed the 2014 Committee Assignments to the Board.

## **9. Adjourn**

**Motion Passed:** Move to adjourn at 8:30 PM. Passed with a motion by Mr. Larry Craybas and a second by Mr. Scott Clayton.

Mrs. Jennifer Ackerman	Yes
Mr. Stuart Carlsen	Yes
Mr. Scott Clayton	Yes
Mr. Larry Craybas	Yes
Mr. William Duff	Yes
Mr. Nicholas Hoffman	Yes
Mrs. Kristen Lacey	Yes
Mrs. Melanie O'Brien	Yes
Mrs. Robin Renner	Yes

Respectfully submitted,  
Susan Pare  
Board Recorder