Minutes of the regular meeting of the Board of Education of Belleville Township High School District 201, St. Clair County, Illinois, held April 19, 2021, Belleville Township High School, 920 North Illinois St, Belleville, Illinois.

Members present: Eiskant, Lampkin, Todd, Eckert
Members attending remotely: None
Members absent: Barton, Sauerwein, Watkins

Also present were: Superintendent Brian Mentzer, Assistant Superintendent Dustin Bilbruck, Director of Alternative Education Andrea Gannon, Assistant Superintendent for Special Services Melissa Taylor, Director of Human Resources and Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Marshaun Warren, Principal Josh Lane, and Principal Rich Mertens.

The meeting link was provided to individuals who requested to attend the meeting remotely.

Mr. Eiskant moved, seconded by Mr. Todd, that a closed session be called at 6:31 pm to discuss the appointment, employment, compensation, discipline, performance or dismissal of a specific employee or office of the public body, pursuant to 5 ILCS 120/2 (c)(1); collective negotiating matters or deliberations concerning salary schedules for one or more classes of employees, pursuant to 5 ILCS 120/2 (c)(2); purchase or lease of real property by the public body, pursuant to 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(5); student disciplinary cases; pursuant to 5 ILCS 120/2 (c)(9); placement of individual students in special education programs and other matters relating to individual students; pursuant to 5 ILCS 120/2 (c)(10); and pending or probable litigation against, affecting or on behalf of the public body, pursuant to 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(11). Motion carried by the following vote on roll call.

Ayes: Eiskant, Lampkin, Todd, Eckert
Nays: None

The board returned to open session at 7:00 pm.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Mr. Lampkin moved, seconded by Mr. Todd, to approve the minutes from the regular board meeting and closed session held March 15, 2021. Motion carried by the following vote on roll call.

Ayes: Eiskant, Lampkin, Todd, Eckert
Nays: None

Mr. Lampkin moved, seconded by Mr. Todd, to approve the salaries in the amount of $4,457,182.26, bills in the amount of $3,294,094.11, and the treasurer’s report for month ending March 31, 2021. Motion carried by the following vote on roll call.

Ayes: Eiskant, Lampkin, Todd, Eckert
Nays: None
Mr. Eiskant moved, seconded by Mr. Lampkin, to approve the Intergovernmental Agreement for the Use of Edgenuity On-Line Curriculum, exhibit 1; further 

To approve an activity account for the McCormick Family Fund for the Belleville West library; further,

To approve the 2021 Summer School Dates and Fees, exhibit 2; further,

To approve membership in the Illinois High School Association for the 2021-2022 school year; and,

To approve the 2021 Belleville East and West Summer Sports Camps, exhibit 3 and 4. Motion carried by the following vote on roll call.

Ayes: Eiskant, Lampkin, Todd, Eckert  
Nays: None

Members of the C.A.R.E. Coalition addressed the board during public participation. They provided information on the Coalition’s mission, results of the parent survey, and future plans to work with the REC, school district, and community to resolve issues impacting students, especially students of color.

Mr. Mertens and Dr. Lane reported on student activities, end of the year events, and planning for the upcoming school year. SAT testing was held on April 13 on both campuses and went very well.

Mrs. Warren reported on professional development for faculty and staff in collaboration with the Racial Equity Committee. Restorative Justice Training will take place in July and August for the REC district level advisory group. This training will certify our team members to train faculty and staff in the district.

Mr. Eiskant moved, seconded by Mr. Todd, to accept the retirement requests of Dr. Jean Downs, East Science Teacher; Derek Vallem, East Social Studies Teacher; and Melissa Schmitt, West Social Studies Teacher, effective at the conclusion of the 2025-2026 school year; and Gregory Oliver, West Custodian, effective October 31, 2025. Motion carried by the following vote on roll call.

Ayes: Eiskant, Lampkin, Todd, Eckert  
Nays: None
Mr. Lampkin moved, seconded by Mr. Eiskant, to approve the resignations of Molly Hepp, West Social Studies Teacher, effective at the conclusion of the 2020-2021 school year; Aaron Ackerman, East Maintenance Worker, effective April 5, 2021; and Michele Robinson, East School Psychologist, effective April 13, 2021. Motion carried by the following vote on roll call.

Ayes: Eiskant, Lampkin, Todd, Eckert
Nays: None

Mr. Eiskant moved, seconded by Mr. Todd, to approve the employment of Gabrielle Flanigan as a Science Teacher at Belleville East for the 2021-2022 school year. Motion carried by the following vote on roll call.

Ayes: Eiskant, Lampkin, Todd, Eckert
Nays: None

Mr. Todd moved, seconded by Mr. Eiskant, to approve the employment of Ryan Pruett as a Special Education Teacher at Belleville East for the 2021-2022 school year. Motion carried by the following vote on roll call.

Ayes: Eiskant, Lampkin, Todd, Eckert
Nays: None

Mr. Lampkin moved, seconded by Mr. Todd, to approve the increase in assignment of Tara Neutzling to full-time Belleville West Spanish Teacher for the 2021-2022 school year. Motion carried by the following vote on roll call.

Ayes: Eiskant, Lampkin, Todd, Eckert
Nays: None

Mr. Todd moved, seconded by Mr. Lampkin, to approve the 6th assignment of Katie Hoerner, Social Studies, for 2nd semester of the 2020-2021 school year. Motion carried by the following vote on roll call.

Ayes: Eiskant, Lampkin, Todd, Eckert
Nays: None

Mr. Todd moved, seconded by Mr. Eiskant, to approve the list of changes to Co-Curricular and Volunteer Coaches for the 2020-2021 school year, exhibit 5. Motion carried by the following vote on roll call.

Ayes: Eiskant, Lampkin, Todd, Eckert
Nays: None
Mr. Eiskant moved, seconded by Mr. Todd, to approve the list of changes in Transportation personnel, at-will bus drivers and food service personnel for the 2020-2021 school year, exhibit 6. Motion carried by the following vote on roll call.

Ayes: Eiskant, Lampkin, Todd, Eckert
Nays: None

Mr. Lampkin moved, seconded by Mr. Eiskant, to approve the employment of Michele Robinson as an East School Psychologist Intern for fall of the 2021-2022 school year. Motion carried by the following vote on roll call.

Ayes: Eiskant, Lampkin, Todd, Eckert
Nays: None

Mr. Lampkin moved, seconded by Mr. Todd, to approve the leave of absence request of Courtney Cook, Belleville East Teacher Assistant, for first semester of the 2021-2022 school year. Motion carried by the following vote on roll call.

Ayes: Eiskant, Lampkin, Todd, Eckert
Nays: None

Mrs. Gannon reported that summer school registration is going well with 300 students already registered.

Mr. Bilbruck reported on district finances noting all funds benefited from the final tax payment received last month. Our EAV came back higher than originally projected which allows the district to reduce our tax rate by 2 cents. This will be the lowest tax rate since 2013 for our taxpayers. He provided information on the recommended bus purchase, CTE innovation grant purchases, and the Health Life Safety project for summer 2021.

Ms. Taylor reported on special education enrollment, state testing, and summer programs. In recognition of Autism Awareness month, she provided data on the number of District 201 students receiving special education services with an eligibility of Autism over the last five years.

Dr. Mentzer was pleased to report this is the first week the district had zero positive COVID cases and zero transmissions within the district. The district is working on changes to the way student extra-curricular and academic programs are funded that would reduce student activity fees and require less fundraising.
Mr. Lampkin moved, seconded by Mr. Eiskant, to abate or reduce property tax in conjunction with the tax computation report as presented, exhibit 7. Motion carried by the following vote on roll call.

Ayes: Eiskant, Lampkin, Todd, Eckert
Nays: None

Mr. Todd moved, seconded by Mr. Lampkin, to approve the bus replacement purchase in the amount of $68,941.00 from Midwest Transit Equipment as presented, exhibit 8. Motion carried by the following vote on roll call.

Ayes: Eiskant, Lampkin, Todd, Eckert
Nays: None

Mr. Lampkin moved, seconded by Mr. Eiskant, to approve the CTE Innovation Grant Purchases as presented, exhibit 9. Motion carried by the following vote on roll call.

Ayes: Eiskant, Lampkin, Todd, Eckert
Nays: None

Mr. Eiskant moved, seconded by Mr. Todd, to approve the Health Life Safety project for summer 2021 as presented, exhibit 10. Motion carried by the following vote on roll call.

Ayes: Eiskant, Lampkin, Todd, Eckert
Nays: None

The meeting adjourned at 7:44 pm.

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President

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Secretary