

**RECORD OF BOARD PROCEEDINGS  
(MINUTES)**

Ft. Mitchell, KY

The BEECHWOOD Board of Education met in the Beechwood Cafeteria at 6:00 PM, on December 11, 2023, with the following members present:

**Attendance Taken at 6:00 PM:**

Present Board Members:

Mrs. Jeanne Berger  
Mr. Bradford Hood  
Dr. Ronald Savignano  
Mrs. Amy Sleet  
Mrs. Melanie Stricker

**I. Call to Order**

The mission of Beechwood Independent School District is to provide innovative education grounded in tradition. Our educational vision is to inspire students to embrace responsibility, productivity and compassion of a global community. Our vision is communicated to students, faculty, and our community by various media from the printed word to the internet and is exemplified by our district slogan: Innovative education grounded in tradition.

**I.A. Call to Order / Roll Call**

**I.B. Staff Members Present**

Dr. Mike Stacy, Superintendent  
Mr. Alan Yanke, High School Principal  
Mrs. Jana Bromley, Asst High School Principal  
Mr. Zach Ashley, Elementary Principal  
Mrs. Alicia Wittmer, Asst Elementary Principal  
Dr. Sarah Schobel, Dir of Curriculum  
Mr. Justin Kaiser, Dir of Operations

Mr. Tim Lillard, Technology Director  
Mrs. Stephanie Layton, Business and University Liaison  
Mrs. Kristi Ward, Finance Director  
Also in attendance: Jeremy Deters, Board Attorney

**I.C. Recognition of Guests**

**I.C.1. Christmas card winner, 8th grader, Evan Barth**

**I.C.2. Jim Swift, Maintenance Director, Retirement**

Thank you to Jim Swift for 15 years of service to Beechwood Independent School District

**I.C.3. Auditors Presentation - Cloyd and Associates**

### **I.D. Public Comment**

Each Person wishing to address the Board of Education must sign in. When called upon to speak the person who speaks should stand, give his/her name and group he/she represents, and then address his/her comments directly to the Board of Education Chairperson.

Discussion:

Laura Boyd shared her concerns to the Board.

Dr Stacy shared a statement that the Board of Education does not manage school discipline and student discipline issues cannot be addressed publicly:

*Dr. Stacy's statement is as follows:*

I understand that people are upset about a discipline issue and in 2023, I completely understand your fears, but I need to make a couple of things clear. Last Monday morning the high school administration was made aware of a potential threat on social media. The school premise was immediately secured and Ft. Mitchell Police was contacted. An investigation was conducted and determined that there was no direct threat nor an imminent or immediate safety risk. This resulted in no further action by the police department. In my opinion, communication should have gone at that time, but we chose not to do so since the police did not find the post to be a valid threat or anyone being in imminent danger. I was personally notified later in the evening and requested a statement go out regardless of the fact that there were no charges or immediate threat. However, once law enforcement didn't bring charges, the matter moved to a school discipline issue. Unlike a bomb threat or a student bringing a weapon to school, this situation was extremely vague and regardless many of the details that have been shared since have been fabricated. At no time were any of the students in the building in danger. At no time was the student in question unaccompanied once admin was made aware

Discipline issues cannot be discussed publicly. However, social media posts in the community have made it more difficult to conduct school discipline. We are absolutely not influenced by social media but it is problematic to defend our discipline process when it can easily appear that consequences are tied to social media posts and community demands that aren't even based on facts. I know people think we didn't have all the facts and I will respond with... refer to the "student discipline issues cannot be discussed publicly" so I cannot even combat those half-truths with response in writing or on social media.

Finally, one other thing that has been shared to make sure it's all clear, is that the Board does not manage school discipline. They have no "say" in school discipline other than to pass the handbook policies. They have no day-to-day interaction with those outcomes. That all falls back to the school admin.

Korey Yelton shared concerns regarding a potential threat by a student and the way the situation was handled by the administration. Chris Yelton shared concerns regarding the communication around a potential threat last week. Robyn Crouch asked for transparency around a student's potential threat. She asked questions around the consequences and steps moving forward with the student. Jennifer Withrow advocated for mental health support and curriculum for students and to have a no-tolerance policy in regard to threats.

## II. Discussion and Action Agenda

### II.A. School Calendar for 2024-2025 SY - 1st Reading

## III. Consent Agenda

**Motion Passed:** Approval to adopt consent agenda passed with a motion by Mrs. Melanie Stricker and a second by Mrs. Amy Sleet.

Mrs. Jeanne Berger	Yes
Mr. Bradford Hood	Yes
Dr. Ronald Savignano	Yes
Mrs. Amy Sleet	Yes
Mrs. Melanie Stricker	Yes

### III.A. Approval of Minutes

#### III.A.1. November 11, 2013

#### III.B. Monthly Bills

#### III.C. Use of Facility Requests

#### III.C.1. Fusion FC NKY

#### III.D. Overnight Trip

#### III.D.1. All State Choir and Band

#### III.E. Pay Applications #18 for Phase B

#### III.F. Furniture package for new building

## IV. Information

### IV.A. Superintendent's Report

Dr. Stacy discussed the finance report, the audit report and the property assessment impact on our finances. We continue to advocate in Frankfort for solutions to support our funding.

Dr. Stacy shared a construction update including progress and important timelines before winter.

#### IV.A.1. Finance Report

#### IV.A.2. SBDM Meeting Minutes

### IV.B. Personnel Report

Jim Swift's retirement effective January 1, 2024

Brian Wever is being classified supervisory stipend due to Jim Swift's retirement.

## V. Agenda in Official Board Minutes

**Motion Passed:** Approval of making the agenda part of the official board minutes passed with a motion by Mr. Bradford Hood and a second by Mrs. Jeanne Berger.

Mrs. Jeanne Berger	Yes
Mr. Bradford Hood	Yes
Dr. Ronald Savignano	Yes
Mrs. Amy Sleet	Yes
Mrs. Melanie Stricker	Yes

**VI. Other Business**

**VI.A. Board**

**VI.B. Staff**

**VI.C. Public**

**VII. Adjourn**

**Motion Passed:** Motion to adjourn the meeting passed with a motion by Mrs. Melanie Stricker and a second by Mrs. Amy Sleet.

Mrs. Jeanne Berger	Yes
Mr. Bradford Hood	Yes
Dr. Ronald Savignano	Yes
Mrs. Amy Sleet	Yes
Mrs. Melanie Stricker	Yes

**ATTEST:** \_\_\_\_\_  
Secretary

**APPROVED:** \_\_\_\_\_  
Chairman

Meeting Minutes December 11, 2023