



The Bethel-Tate Board of Education held its regular Board meeting on Tuesday, February 20, 2020.

Presentations

YWCA Grant

Amber Malott from the YWCA spoke about the partnership between the Bethel-Tate Local School District and YWCA. Through grant funding, the YWCA will coordinate education, prevention, and support services regarding sexual assault, domestic violence, dating violence, and stalking. An on-site coordinator from the YWCA will provide comprehensive crisis intervention services to victimized students. Each year, YWCA School-Based Services anticipates providing prevention programming to 800 students and direct crisis intervention/counseling to at least 25 students in Bethel, New Richmond, Georgetown, and Ripley School Districts.

OSU Extension Career Readiness Program

Clermont County OSU Extension Educators, Margaret Jenkins, and Kelly Royalty spoke about the work they have been doing at Bethel-Tate High School. Earlier this school year students participated in their Financial Literacy program. Currently, they are working with freshmen on areas of skill exploration and assessment and career exploration and planning.

Empower Youth Program

Middle School Leadership Program

Empower Youth is a non-profit organization that works with Bethel students to instill confidence and help kids set and reach goals by building a strong sense of community. They work with the middle school each month on specific leadership traits.

High School Career Fair

On March 20, Empower Youth is organizing a career day at Bethel-Tate High School. Close to 40 businesses will be setting up booths which allow students to rotate through career stations.

4H Program

Empower Youth also provides a 4H Club to foster leadership, public speaking, and everyday life skills.

High School Cheerleaders Trip

Mr. Sturgeon shared that the BTHS cheer squad qualified for nationals and will be competing March 18-22 in Orlando, Florida.

Literacy Program

William Bick Principal Greg Chandler and Ebon C. Hill Principal Matt Wagner spoke about the literacy program in their buildings. Through a balanced literacy program, a combination of whole group, small group, and one-on-one instruction is designed to meet the needs of all students in reading, writing, and word work.

Public Participation

None

Treasurer - Karen Royer

The Board approved the Treasurer's consent agenda which includes the list of monthly bills, cash reconciliation and investments, and a cash transfer from the general fund to the permanent improvement fund. The Board accepted several donations from community members for the National Honor Society's Fireworks show, the high school cheerleading trip, and high school football decals.

The Treasurer's Department learned that it received the Auditor of State award for a clean audit.

Superintendent - Melissa Kircher

The Board approved the Superintendent's consent agenda including personnel recommendations, two teacher resignations (Mary Adams and Janeen Poklar) for the purpose of retirement, and Bethel-Tate High School graduation requirements.

The 2020-2021 open enrollment application period from April 6 – May 1, 2020, was also approved.

Informational Items/Board Discussion

Brandy Pryer shared information on Bark for Schools to help protect students online through free account monitoring and web filtering services.

The Board discussed options to collect past due fees. A plan will be presented at the May Board of Education meeting.

The Board reviewed its lice policy and shared that it will stay intact. A student may return to school after treatment and if no live lice and nits are found in the hair

The middle school received a pamphlet from P&G on adolescent development that will be distributed to students with approval from parents.

In a legislative update, Dr. Shula spoke about the latest update on EdChoice vouchers and his legislative trip to Washington D.C. on behalf of the Southwest Ohio School Boards Association.

Board Action Items

The Board tabled applying for membership in the National School Board Association.

Board Committees

The board will be inviting community members to serve on a new committee to discuss district finances.

Three Board members will be serving on the Superintendent's policy committee. Only two will be attending each committee meeting so they can rotate two of the more experienced Board members with a board member new to the committee.

Future Board Meetings

Board Work Session to discuss Board goals
April 1, 2020
4:30 p.m.

Regular Meeting
April 1, 2020
6 p.m.

Work Session to meet with Bond Counsel
April 28, 2020
5 p.m.

Regular Meeting
April 28, 2020
6 p.m.