

BENTON CONSOLIDATED HIGH SCHOOL
Benton, Illinois 62812
MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION
March 19, 2026

The Board of Education of the Benton Consolidated High School District #103 met in Regular Session on Thursday, March 19, 2026 at 5:30 P.M. in the District Board Room. President, Mark Minor called the meeting to order.

Mark Minor opened in prayer and Mitch Bennett led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Board members present: Mark Minor, President; Marci Glover, Secretary; Jay Copple, Stacia Sloan, Robin LaBuwi, and Mitch Bennett. Board member absent: Shane Cockrum.

Others present: Benjamin Johnson, Superintendent; Sean Docherty, Principal; Kenise Head, Recording Secretary; Amy Kolodziej and Mary Ann Supancic, BEA Representatives; Visitors: Dylan Therman and Brandon Little with OMNI Energy Partners.

4. (CLOSED) EXECUTIVE SESSION

4.1 Appointment/Compensation/Discipline/Performance of Personnel

4.2 Collective Bargaining

Jay Copple made the motion to enter into Executive Session to discuss the Appointment, Compensation, Discipline, and Performance of Personnel and Collective Bargaining. Stacia Sloan seconded the motion. Upon a roll call vote, all members present voted yes. Motion carried.

The Board; Benjamin Johnson, Superintendent; and Kenise Head, Recording Secretary entered into an Executive Session in the executive board room at 5:33 P.M.

Open Session - The Board reconvened in an Open Session at 6:11 P.M. Marci Glover, Secretary called the roll. Answering present: Mark Minor – yes, Jay Copple – yes, Stacia Sloan – yes, Robin LaBuwi – yes, Mitch Bennett – yes, and Marci Glover – yes.

Others present: Benjamin Johnson, Superintendent; Sean Docherty, Principal; Kenise Head, Recording Secretary; Amy Kolodziej and Mary Ann Supancic, BEA Representatives; Visitors: Dylan Therman and Brandon Little with OMNI Energy Partners.

5. CONSENT AGENDA

5.1 Approve Minutes: Regular Board Meeting Minutes, February 19, 2026

Executive Board Meeting Minutes, February 19, 2026

E-Learning Plan Renewal Hearing Minutes, February 19, 2026

5.2 Approve Financial Report (February 2026)

5.3 Approve Payment of Bills (February 2026)

5.4 Approve Annual IHSA Membership

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Robin LaBuwi made a motion to approve the Consent Agenda as presented. Mitch Bennett seconded the motion. Upon a roll call vote, board members voted as follows: Mitch Bennett – yes, Marci Glover – yes, Robin LaBuwi – yes, Jay Copple – yes, Stacia Sloan – yes and Mark Minor – yes. Motion carried.

To better accommodate visiting contractors, the Board approved moving to agenda item **9.5 Award an Addendum to the OMNI Energy Partners Performance Contract for the Summer 2026 Renovations. Authorizing the Superintendent to Sign the Contract Upon Satisfactory Legislation Review by 3rd Party Professional Engineer or Licensed Architect.** Robin LaBuwi made a motion to approve the following: Proposed Base Project – FACS and Main Building Corridor Flooring Renovations, Additional Building Renovations Alternative Package 1: East Gymnasium – Health Life and Safety Concrete Replacement, Additional Building Renovations Alternative Package 2: North Wing – Corridor, Restroom and Classroom Renovations as well as Additional Building Renovations Alternative Package 3: Vocational Wing – Shop Renovations and One Classroom Addition. Mitch Bennett seconded the motion. Upon a roll call vote, all members present voted yes. Motion carried.

6. ADMINISTRATIVE REMARKS

Mr. Johnson commented on the following:

- BCHS held a Teacher Institute on March 17th due to the District being an election polling place
- Inside the Corral Updates

Mr. Docherty and Mr. Miller provided written reports.

Mr. Garner shared a monthly athletic newsletter to staff and board members emails.

7. COMMENTS FROM VISITORS

8. OLD BUSINESS

9. NEW BUSINESS

9.1 Employment of Personnel Robin LaBuwi made a motion to accept the Resignation of Coleman Fitch as English Teacher for the 2026-2027 SY. Jay Copple seconded the motion. Upon a roll call vote, all members present voted yes. Motion carried.

Jay Copple made a motion to employ Makenna Mumbower as an English Teacher for the 2026-2027 SY pending completion of a clean background check and submission of appropriate licensure. Robin LaBuwi seconded the motion. Upon a roll call vote, all members present voted yes. Motion carried.

Mitch Bennett made a motion to accept the Resignation of Justin Holman as Bus Driver effective March 9, 2026. Jay Copple seconded the motion. Upon a roll call vote, all members present voted yes. Motion carried.

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9.2 Assignment of Personnel Robin LaBuwi made a motion to accept the Resignation of Lucas Roberts as Pep Club Sponsor at the conclusion of the 2025-2026 SY. Jay Copple seconded the motion. Upon a roll call vote, all members present voted yes. Motion carried.

9.3 Review/Approve Posting of Open Positions

9.4 Approve District Extra-Curricular Dead Week as June 26, 2026 – July 7, 2026 Robin LaBuwi made a motion to approve the District Extra-Curricular Dead Week as June 26, 2026 through July 7, 2026. Mitch Bennett seconded the motion. Upon a roll call vote, all members present voted yes. Motion carried.

9.5 Award an Addendum to the OMNI Energy Partners Performance Contract for the Summer 2026 Renovations. Authorizing the Superintendent to Sign the Contract Upon Satisfactory Legislation Review by 3rd Party Professional Engineer or Licensed Architect This is to formally note that the Board approved moving item 9.5 to follow the Consent Agenda.

9.6 Award 3rd Party Peer Review of OMNI Energy Partners Performance Contract in Accordance with the Requirements Set Forth by 105 ILCS 5/Article 19b to Design Mechanical Inc. Jay Copple made a motion to award Design Mechanical Inc. the 3rd Party Peer Review of OMNI Energy Partners Performance Contract. Mitch Bennett seconded the motion. Upon a roll call vote, all members present voted yes. Motion carried.

10. BOARD OF EDUCATION REMARKS

Robin LaBuwi asked about the district's interest rates.

11. ADJOURNMENT Jay Copple made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:09 P.M. Robin LaBuwi seconded the motion. Upon a roll call vote, all members present voted yes. Motion carried.

BOARD PRESIDENT

BOARD SECRETARY