

Minutes
Regular School Board Meeting
August 11, 2025 6:30 pm

A regular meeting of the School Board of the School District of Bruce was held on August 11th, 2025 in the Bruce High School IMC. School Board President Roxanne Kemnitz read a statement of proper noticing of the meeting. Members present were Craig Chafer, Roxanne Kemnitz, Brittany Leer (via phone), Daniel Robers, and Steve Golat. Also present were Administrators Travis Augustine, Anthony Bosco, and James Schlauderaff.

The board meeting was called to order at 6:40 p.m. by Board President Roxanne Kemnitz.

A Robers/Chafer motion to approve the agenda carried.

A Chafer/Robers motion to approve the July 14th, 2025 Regular Board meeting minutes carried.

A Robers/Kemnitz motion to approve Vouchers and payroll carried.

A Robers/Chafer motion to approve Cash Receipts carried.

Administrative Reports:

Superintendent's Report

August 2025

- Building Background Knowledge
 - I visited the Village of Bruce Board Meeting this past week, introduced myself during public comment and offered the opportunity to partner with the BSD in any way that builds our community.
 - My admin team and I spent time the past couple of weeks reaching out to families of students who have open enrolled out of the Bruce School District. This is helping us to better understand some of the things that may require some attention ranging from bullying and harassment concerns to consistently high expectations for student learning experiences across the grade bands and challenges with transportation, particularly the length of time our students are on buses each day.
- Establish the District Leadership Team
 - Our District Leadership Team held our third meeting and we are really building a strong relationship with a clear vision for what the team feels our priorities are this school year. Through our conversations it seems that there is a developing sense of how my team will lead, what our goals are for establishing some shared decision making and staff input structures and how we are geared to “not admire problems but address them.”
- Welcoming Back of Staff
 - We will be having our first annual “Bruce School District Staff Retreat and Convocation” at Trails End Camp on August 19th. I am truly excited to get the staff together, launch the year in a positive but clear way and give the teams some time to reconnect and build as we get ready for families and students to come to Open House on August 20th.
- Hiring
 - We have hired an Art Teacher and a Career and Technology Education Teacher. We have also hired an Athletic Director and various coaching positions. I will be holding interviews for the District Administrative Support / Records Assistant Position on Monday.
- Team Learning
 - I am attending the Wellness and Farm to School Summit (with James and Travis) and the First Year Superintendent Conferences this week and we will report out on both of these at our September BOE meeting.

Elementary Principal Report – July Update

July was a productive month focused on building relationships, preparing for a strong start to the school year, and laying the groundwork for long-term success.

Individual Staff Meetings: I met one-on-one with elementary staff members throughout the month. These meetings were invaluable in building relationships, gaining insight into our strengths and challenges, and beginning conversations about goals for the year ahead.

Elementary Leadership Team Formation: Work has begun on forming an elementary leadership team with intentional representation across grade levels, content areas, and support staff. This team will help drive decision-making, build collaboration, and ensure all voices are heard as we move forward together.

Back-to-School Planning: A detailed back-to-school schedule and agenda for our August 21st elementary staff meeting are nearly finalized. The plan includes time for collaboration, training, and setting the tone for a positive and focused year.

Math Curriculum: Teachers have received the updated math curriculum resources, and a professional development session is scheduled for our September in-service. This will ensure that staff are well-supported as we implement the new materials with fidelity.

Hiring Update: We successfully hired a K–12 Art Teacher for the upcoming school year, bringing creative strength and continuity to our arts programming.

Intervention & Act 20 Readiness: The intervention team and I met to ensure we're fully prepared to meet the needs of all learners from day one. We also began planning around Act 20 requirements to ensure compliance and best practice implementation in the fall.

July has set a strong foundation for a successful year. I'm excited for the energy August will bring as we welcome staff and students back.

Middle School/High School Principal's Report

This past month has been one of learning and getting to know the Bruce School community as we step into August and begin to really focus on ensuring we are ready for the beginning of the new school year.

Staff and School Operations

I've continued to meet with staff members one-on-one, building on the initial conversations from last month. These meetings have allowed me to gain a deeper understanding of our school's strengths and challenges. I've also been focused on staffing, particularly the open music position, and continue to reach out and make connections with licensed teachers to encourage them to apply for our open positions.

I continue to dedicate time to reviewing and updating key school documents, in particular the MS/HS Student Handbook with an eye to ensuring that they align to the district's published policies. The goal is for these documents to provide clear guidance for everyone as we start the year. Additionally, I completed the initial revision and review of our District Crisis Plans and updated them with current staffing information, a critical step in ensuring our procedures are up-to-date and effective.

School and Community Engagement

Mr. Bosco, Mr. Schlauderaff and I attended the Cultivating Connections: A Wellness and Farm to School Summit in the Wisconsin Dells. The conference provided the opportunity to learn about resources that can benefit our school community's health and wellness. Additionally, I started a MS/HS School Leadership Team composed of two MS teachers, two HS teachers, a Special Ed teacher, and myself. The goal of this team is very similar to Mr. Bosco's District Leadership team through shared leadership and collaboration at a school level.

Looking Ahead

With the new school year rapidly approaching, attention is now on the return of staff and students with final preparations for teacher inservice, which will take place from August 19th to the 21st well underway. Following that, we are excited to welcome students back to the building on August 25th.

Other discussion items included a Referendum update: Mr. Bosco and Roxie Kemnitz gave an update on some of the things that the executive design team has been working through. A couple of larger changes were

made to the original plan and include the front entrance - the original plan presented moving the office to the lower level and the staff lounge to the upper. The latest plan leaves those rooms in the same location, but will change the layout of the main office. The other larger change involved discussion with Xcel Energy to try and bury the power going to the alley at the back of the school. This would allow for a wider alley and better traffic flow and could eliminate the need to connect to Alvey Street.

BDS Crisis Management Plan draft was presented. Administration will work on finalizing this for September.

Kobussen/Bruce School District Transportation Presentation - Kobussen representatives Brooks and Naomi presented information to the board on proposed new bus routes that would create much less time for kids sitting on buses before and after school. There was also discussion on creating some bus stops where several children could be picked up at one time creating less stops for buses resulting in shorter bus times. Kobussen was asked to explore the distances/age groups at certain distances from the school and also in town in Exeland to see if we can create some bus stop areas. They will present again in Sept.

A Golat/Robers motion to accept the Administration Reports and discussion items carried.

A Robers/Kemnitz motion to approve the title and contract changes for the Special Education Director carried.

A Robers/Golat motion to designate Anthony Bosco, Bruce School District's new district Administrator, as the signer on the activity account at Chippewa Valley Bank, replacing Jeff Walsh, who is no longer employed by the school district carried

A Robers/Golat to adopt a resolution authorizing American Deposit Management LLC as an authorized agent for district funds carried.

A Robers/Golat motion to adopt a resolution designating public depository and authorizing withdrawal of county, city, village, town or school district monies carried.

A longevity pay structure for district employees was presented and tabled for further discussion in September.

A Golat/Robers motion to accept the milk bid from Wenger Distributing carried.

A Robers/Golat motion to accept the bread bid from Pan-O-Gold baking company carried.

A Robers/Kemnitz motion to approve the employee recommendations as presented carried.

There were no visitors to address the board.

The next Regular School Board Meeting will be held on Monday, September 8th, 2025 at 6:30 pm in the High School IMC.

A Golat/Robers motion to adjourn at 8:12 pm carried.

Submitted by,

Roxie Kemnitz (President [acting clerk])

Approved September 8th, 2025