

BEAVER CREEK SCHOOL DISTRICT #26
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Allie Wheeler, Superintendent



MINUTES
REGULAR GOVERNING BOARD MEETING
AND PUBLIC HEARING
TUESDAY, MAY 12, 2026

Board members in attendance:

Lincoln Thomasson – President - Zoom
 Susi Edgington – Clerk
 Carlos Ramos
 Dr. Richard Hector Sr.
 Renee Dial

1. The Regular Board meeting was called to order at 6:00 PM by Susi Edgington.
2. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited and was followed by a Moment of Silence.
3. Renee Dial made the motion to adopt the Agenda. The motion was seconded by Dr. Richard Hector Sr. and the vote was unanimous.

Lincoln Thomasson	Susi Edgington	Carlos Ramos	Dr. Richard Hector Sr.	Renee Dial
Aye	Aye	Aye	Aye	Aye

4. Board Meeting Minutes (that may need corrections): None to Report
5. Information Only Items
 - A. Summary of Current Events:
 - a. Superintendent Update
 - i. Superintendent Wheeler provided the Governing Board with the May Highlights. Included this month were photos of our House Assembly, Field Day, Bike Club, Literacy Night and our Spring Festival!
 - ii. Legislative Update – Superintendent Wheeler continues to monitor bills that may affect education.
 - b. Governing Board Members

- i. The next regular meeting and Public Hearing on the Proposed FY2026-2027 Budget will be on Tuesday, June 9, 2026 at 6:00PM.
- ii. Spring Concert May 14th @ 7:00PM. Please confirm your intent to intend with Superintendent Wheeler so we can post for a possible quorum.
- iii. Upcoming Promotions: Preschool, May 19th @ 10:00AM; Kindergarten, May 19th @ 7:00PM; 8th Grade, May 20th @ 7:00PM. Please confirm your intent to attend with Superintendent Wheeler so we can post for a possible quorum.
- iv. ASBA Summer Leadership Institute – June 4-6, 2026 (Flagstaff) – If you are interested please reach out and we will work on registration. Registration closes May 22, 2026.

B. Report:

Report from Operations Specialist, Karen DuFresne, on the updated and revised District Wellness Policy.

Ms. DuFresne presented the Governing Board with the new Wellness Policy and a School Wellness Report Card. These documents do not need Governing Board approval but are required to be presented to the Board. The Wellness Committee met in March to discuss updating goals. The new forms have been updated and reformatted; new goals include compliance with HB2164 regarding Ultra Processed Foods, the Fresh Fruits and Vegetables Program (FFVP), and increased hand washing. Currently the FFVP has been a huge success; the kids are enjoying trying new and different items. The School Wellness Report Card reflects our strengths including playground safety assessments, Walk to School Day, PE and Sports. We continue to work on increased access to drinking water (pending new filtration system completion) and participation in sport activities

Superintendent Wheeler reminded the board if they have any questions to write them down and they will be addressed at the end of the meeting.

6. Public Comments:
None to Report

7. Action Items:

A. Carlos Ramos made the motion to discuss and approve the Consent Agenda. The motion was seconded by Dr. Richard Hector Sr. and the vote was unanimous.

Lincoln Thomasson	Susi Edgington	Carlos Ramos	Dr. Richard Hector Sr.	Renee Dial
Aye	Aye	Aye	Aye	Aye

B. Specific Items of District Business which require action

a. PUBLIC HEARING.

i. Second review of Character Strong tier one classroom supports.

Dr. Richard Hector Sr. motioned to open the Public Hearing and it was seconded by Carlos Ramos. Superintendent Wheeler had hoped that the representative would be able to attend, but they had not entered via Zoom.

Renee Dial expressed that the website was not helpful at all. Mrs. Wheeler reminded her that she had sent out a Full Access link previously. This link will give the Governing Board the ability to see the curriculum in its entirety.

There were no further questions or comments stated.

The Public Hearing was closed.

There is no action at this time. The final request for approval will be on June 9, 2026.

ii. Public Hearing on the Final Revision of the FY2025-2026 Budget.

Carlos Ramos motioned to open the Public Hearing and it was seconded by Dr. Richard Hector Sr.

There were no questions or comments stated.

The Public Hearing was closed.

b. Discussion and approval of the Final Revision of the FY2025-2026 Budget.

Carlos Ramos made the motion to discuss and approve the Final Revision of the FY2025-2026 Budget; Dr. Richard Hector Sr. seconded the motion.

Business Manager, Ori Womack, explained to the Governing Board that after final numbers were entered the final increase to the M/O Budget was \$4,443 and final increase to the UCO Budget was \$48,962. Both increases were placed into instructional categories. While the district saw declining enrollment in FY26 (about 30 students) which would have resulted in a loss of \$139,000, the final reconciliation of FY25 and additional one-time supplements from Prop123, DAA, and FRPL allowed for the above increases. The district continues to monitor ADM, budget capacity, and expenditures.

Carlos Ramos asked where the loss of the 30 students came from. Superintendent Wheeler explained that a large number of our families moved to the new apartments in Camp Verde while others moved out of state. We did see that initial decline, however, at this time we are seeing steady enrollment numbers.

Renee Dial asked about her budget questions that were emailed. Ms. Womack stated that the response had been sent earlier this afternoon to the entire board.

Susi Edgington requested a roll call vote and the vote was unanimous.

Lincoln Thomasson	Susi Edgington	Carlos Ramos	Dr. Richard Hector Sr.	Renee Dial
Aye	Aye	Aye	Aye	Aye

c. Discussion and approval of Catapult Summer School programming.

Carlos Ramos made the motion to discuss and approve Catapult Summer Programming; Dr. Richard Hector Sr. seconded the motion.

Superintendent Wheeler explained that we have used this company previously, utilizing ESSER funds, and had success. The total cost (\$19,002.26) covers staff and supplies for the Science/Reading/Math focused summer school and will be funded through the Title I Grant Budget. Our staff members are hired by Catapult and are the ones working directly with students.

Susi Edgington asked if the program did not have full attendance would it still be the same cost. Superintendent Wheeler confirmed that regardless of enrollment the cost would remain the same.

Carlos Ramos asked how many students would be from our school. Superintendent Wheeler answered that this is only open to our school. This is a program we are requesting to provide to our staff and students.

Susi Edgington requested a roll call vote and the vote was unanimous.

Lincoln Thomasson	Susi Edgington	Carlos Ramos	Dr. Richard Hector Sr.	Renee Dial
Aye	Aye	Aye	Aye	Aye

d. Discussion and approval of the Yavapai County Curriculum *Promoting Health Among Teens! (Abstinence Only)*.

Carlos Ramos made the motion to discuss and approve the Yavapai County Curriculum *Promoting Health Among Teens! (Abstinence Only)*; Dr. Richard Hector Sr. seconded the motion

This has been presented at two separate Public Hearings, once on March 9, 2026 and again on April 14, 2026. This is the final request for approval.

Renee Dial asked if this is the only program that will be taught. Superintendent confirmed that yes, this program presented will be taught by the Health Department to 7th and 8th grade students whose parent or guardian has signed the Opt-in form.

Renee Dial likes that there is parent involvement.

Carlos Ramos asked if drug abuse is covered. Superintendent Wheeler stated that we do cover that but in a separate program. Drug abuse is covered by Matforce.

Carlos Ramos asked what grades are involved. Superintendent reiterated that it is 7th and 8th grade students with parent or guardian Opt-in only.

Carlos Ramos asked how many days is this taught. Superintendent Wheeler said typically it is taught over an 8 day period, 1 hour per day. The program is split, teaching boys and girls separately.

Susi Edgington requested a roll call vote and the vote was unanimous.

Lincoln Thomasson	Susi Edgington	Carlos Ramos	Dr. Richard Hector Sr.	Renee Dial
Aye	Aye	Aye	Aye	Aye

- e. Discussion and approval of the Discipline Matrix effective FY26-27.

Renee Dial made the motion to discuss and approve the Discipline Matrix effective FY26-27; Carlos Ramos seconded the motion.

Superintendent Wheeler reminded the board that we have discussed adding a point's component to our current Discipline Matrix previously. Once a student reaches 100 points, they would be considered for long-term suspension, which can be 10 days up to 1 year. Typically, it is for the quarter or semester depending on the severity. This points system will allow the district to track where students are at through the year and start conversations with students and parents earlier.

Susi Edgington asked what happens if the long-term suspension occurs at the end of the school year, what it looks like going into the New Year. Superintendent Wheeler replied that a student could be suspended into the New Year.

Susi Edgington asked what if they are an 8th grader going on to high school. Superintendent Wheeler stated that the high school does not have to honor the long-term suspension however they might start the student on a probationary plan or alternate placement.

Susi Edgington requested a roll call vote and the vote was unanimous.

Lincoln Thomasson	Susi Edgington	Carlos Ramos	Dr. Richard Hector Sr.	Renee Dial
Aye	Aye	Aye	Aye	Nay

- f. Discussion and approval for an increase in tuition for our preschool program for students who are 3 and 4 years old.

Renee Dial made the motion to discuss and approve an increase in tuition for our preschool program for students who are 3 and 4 years old; Dr. Richard Hector Sr. seconded the motion.

Families were presented with the letter provided in the packet, there were no questions or comments brought forward. We made the request last year to charge for 4 year olds (previously free) in order to maintain the stability of the program. Ms. Crystal, Preschool Lead, called around to neighboring preschools and the rate requested is reasonable.

Susi Edgington asked if the new rate would sustain the program. Superintendent Wheeler and Ms. Womack said it would not, however it is the step in the right direction. As a reminder, preschool students are not funded by the state.

Renee Dial asked if the afternoon portion is considered Day Care. Superintendent responded, it is considered “after care” for the families would need/want the additional time at an additional cost.

Renee Dial asked if we had to use “teachers”. Superintendent Wheeler stated that our Lead is not a certified teacher however, she does have her Early Childhood Education Associates Degree, in addition there is a paraprofessional in the classroom for support. We have collaborated with LISA, a program that could help assist families with tuition, up to \$500/year and sometimes there are Quality First Scholarships available for low-income families. Remember we are now a Four Star Quality Preschool Program.

Susi Edgington asked if we offered discounts for families that have multiple children in the program. Superintendent Wheeler stated we will review this, it has not ever been asked or addressed before.

Susi Edgington requested a roll call vote and the vote was unanimous.

Lincoln Thomasson	Susi Edgington	Carlos Ramos	Dr. Richard Hector Sr.	Renee Dial
Aye	Aye	Aye	Aye	Nay

- g. Discussion and approval of the Annual Transportation IGA with Camp Verde Unified District to continue transporting high school students for the 2026-2027 school year.

Renee Dial made the motion to discuss and approve the Annual Transportation IGA with Camp Verde Unified District; Carlos Ramos seconded the motion.

This is annual agreement, with no changes except updating the dates.

Dr. Richard Hector Sr. asked Superintendent Wheeler to elaborate on the agreement. Superintendent Wheeler explained that previously we paid tuition to neighboring high school districts and transported students to them (Camp Verde and Mingus), we received funding and mileage funding for these students and trips. Since changes effective in FY24, the district no longer pays tuition to the high school districts and no longer receives funding for students however, we still transport and can collect mileage funding. This agreement allows for the continuation of this process.

Susi Edgington requested a roll call vote and the vote was unanimous.

Lincoln Thomasson	Susi Edgington	Carlos Ramos	Dr. Richard Hector Sr.	Renee Dial
Aye	Aye	Aye	Aye	Nay

h. Discussion and approval of the modification to the Retirement Incentive Program for 2026-2027.

Carlos Ramos made the motion to discuss and approve the modification to the Retirement Incentive Program for 2026-2027; Dr. Richard Hector Sr. seconded the motion.

Superintendent Wheeler reminded the board that this document was previously approved on March 9, 2026 however after further review the district wanted to clarify and condense the returning salary verbiage.

Renee Dial is concerned with the program, The Arizona State Retirement System (ASRS) and the Million-dollar budget deficit of the state. Superintendent responded that this program is not directly linked to the deficit and we are only requesting clarification on the verbiage of the approved document.

Carlos Ramos asked what the retirement rules were, at what age someone could retire. Superintendent Wheeler answered that it is not based on age but ASRS is based on a points system and each employee will vary. He then asked how this plan changes that. Superintendent Wheeler responded that it does not. A person who is eligible to retire would retire from the district but be hired back with ESI as a contracted employee for one year. After the one year they then can return to the district as a full time employee while still collecting their retirement. This allows the district to retain highly qualified staff.

Renee Dial believes the balance is thrown off, new teachers are not paying into the system while retirees are pulling from the system. It is unhealthy balance and unfair. Ms. Womack explained that all new full time staff pay into ASRS immediately. When someone works through ESI for one year, the district no longer has to pay that mandatory percentage (currently 12%, being reduced to 11.98% on 7/1) but pays the Alternate Contribution Rate (ACR) currently 10%. ASRS fluctuates their percentage each year, and with a decrease, coming it seems that ASRS feels they are in a good place with contributions vs payments.

Renee Dial feels that this is being taken advantage of. Superintendent Wheeler stated that it is not happening here at Beaver Creek. This program allows us to retain highly qualified staff. Staff members could retire and work ESI through another district, providing them the opportunity here benefits the district. Ms. Womack stated that utilizing the ESI Program benefits the district and is a financial savings since mandatory benefits and health insurance are no longer having to be paid for the employee and they have a reduced salary amount.

Susi Edgington stated that schools have been participating in this program for years.

Ms. Womack reminded the Governing Board that the document itself was already approved on March 9, 2026 and the contract with ESI for services was approved on April 14, 2026. The request tonight is only to correct the verbiage of the return salary rate.

Superintendent reiterated again that this allows the district to retain highly qualified staff and not have a gap in service.

Susi Edgington requested a roll call vote and Carlos Ramos said Nay to the program entirely. He was again reminded that we are not requesting approval of the already approved program but we are requesting approval of the verbiage change. He then stated then he will give an Aye.

Susi Edgington requested a final roll call vote and the vote was unanimous

Lincoln Thomasson	Susi Edgington	Carlos Ramos	Dr. Richard Hector Sr.	Renee Dial
Aye	Aye	Aye	Aye	Nay

- i. Discussion and approval of Personnel-Pending Fingerprint clearance and background checks

Renee Dial made the motion to discuss and approve the listed personnel items presented; Carlos Ramos seconded the motion.

- i. Resignations:
 - a. Ashley Magenot – HQ Paraprofessional effective May 21, 2026
- ii. Hires (Pending Fingerprint Clearance and Background Checks)
 - a. Classified Staff as presented for 2026-2027. No raises will be included as the district awaits state approved budget. Additional compensation will be presented at the July 2026 meeting for approval.
 - b. Summer School Staff as presented for June 2026.

There was no discussion.

Susi Edgington requested a roll call vote and the vote was unanimous.

Lincoln Thomasson	Susi Edgington	Carlos Ramos	Dr. Richard Hector Sr.	Renee Dial
Aye	Aye	Aye	Aye	Aye

8. Information Items:

- **Responses to questions from Wellness Policy Report.**
 - None
- **On April 30, 2026 we received the AZELLA State Assessment Results. These results presented 13 students being reclassified as Fluent English Proficient. Great job Mr. Kukulski and Ms. Powers!**
- **FY27 District Calendar – Clerical Updates**
 - **Addition of Parent Teacher Conference dates, and family engagement events.**
- **May Newsletter**
- **SFB Update for ongoing projects (SFB projects are state funded and are not coming out of the district budget)**
 - Water Filtration
 - Roofing
 - Other – None to Report on SFB
- Signatures Finalized:
 - None to Report

9. Request for future Agenda items:

- Renee Dial – Report on YCSS Data Services and why our food cost is so much higher than others.
10. Carlos Ramos made the motion to adjourn the meeting. The motion was seconded by Dr. Richard Hector Sr. The meeting was adjourned at 7:04PM with a unanimous vote.

Lincoln Thomasson	Susi Edgington	Carlos Ramos	Dr. Richard Hector Sr.	Renee Dial
Aye	Aye	Aye	Aye	Aye

Respectfully submitted,

Ori Womack

Lincoln Thomasson

Susi Edgington

Renee Dial

Carlos Ramos

Richard Hector Sr.