

BERLIN BOARD OF EDUCATION
Curriculum Committee Meeting
March 14, 2022
MINUTES

Attendance: Mrs. Jaymee Miller; Mrs. Gina Nappi

Also in Attendance: Dr. Erin McGurk, Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum and Instruction; Ms. Laurie Gjerpen, Director of Literacy and Social Studies; Mrs. Jean Borrup, District ESOL Coordinator

I. Call to Order: The meeting was called to order at 5:04 p.m.

II. Programs Which Support English Learners and Promote Multilingualism

Dr. McGurk introduced Mrs. Borrup and explained her role in the district. Mrs. Borrup presented an overview of the services provided to students who are learning to speak English across the district. Most often, the students enter kindergarten as emerging English learners from bilingual homes. Students may receive pull-out or push in services, or a combination. Services are tailored to the needs of individual students. Many students exit services in elementary school. Approximately 85% of students served are in grades K-5, with only 15% of the students receiving services in grades 6-12. At McGee and at BHS, students have scheduled support classes to focus on English acquisition. Mrs. Borrup also explained the Seal of Biliteracy and the value it holds for students.

III. Proposed 2023-24 School Calendar

Dr. McGurk reviewed the proposed 2023-24 school calendar and described the small changes that were made. One afternoon early release day was added for December. At the request of the Berlin Education Association, the Friday professional learning day in February was moved to Tuesday. The calendar will also now note Ramadan under Special Observance days. The committee expressed a desire to make the same changes to the 2022-23 school calendar.

IV. Proposed Revisions to the 2021-22 School Calendar

The committee discussed the possibility of making June 15th a professional learning/curriculum work day and is supportive of making this change. At this time, they declined to put forward any changes in the calendar as the calendar may still be altered by snow days.

V. Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at 5:50 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Erin K. McGurk, Ed.D.
Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum and Instruction