

The Benton County R-2 School District board members continued the meeting in executive session on January 19, 2026 beginning at 7:46 PM. Board members present were Parrott, Sanders, Eichler, Eckhoff, Siercks, and Casey. Smallwood was absent.

Kevin Smith, Adam Curtis, Elizabeth Eckhoff and Michelle Smith were also present.

Mr. Smith updated the board with information on the FERPA violation that a parent has been mentioning, and stated that the attorney's state we are able to move forward that all items have been addressed within a timely manner.

Mr. Smith shared a letter of resignation from Elementary Secretary, Tasha Rutherford for the end of the 2025/2026 school year. After questions and discussion, a motion made by Eckhoff, seconded by Casey to accept letter of resignation as presented. Roll call vote of motion carried as follows: Casey-yes; Siercks-yes; Eckhoff-yes Smallwood-absent; Eichler-yes; Sanders-yes; and Parrott-yes. Motion carried 6 yes, 0 no.

Mr. Smith shared a letter of resignation from High School Math teacher, Ashley Brown, for the end of the 2025/2026 school year. After questions and discussion, a motion made by Siercks, seconded by Casey to accept letter of resignation as presented. Roll call vote of motion carried as follows: Casey-yes; Siercks-yes; Eckhoff-yes Smallwood-absent; Eichler-yes; Sanders-yes; and Parrott-yes. Motion carried 6 yes, 0 no.

Mr. Smith shared a letter of resignation from school nurse, Kendra Ward for the end of the 2025/2026 school year. After questions and discussion, a motion made by Sanders, seconded by Siercks to accept letter of resignation as presented. Roll call vote of motion carried as follows: Casey-yes; Siercks-yes; Eckhoff-yes Smallwood-absent; Eichler-yes; Sanders-yes; and Parrott-yes. Motion carried 6 yes, 0 no.

Mr. Smith requested to hire Kendra Ward, and Kelsey Smith for JH Girls Softball coaching extra duty. A motion made by Eckhoff, seconded by Siercks to approve extra duty for JH Girls Softball. Roll call vote of motion carried as follows: Casey-yes; Siercks-yes; Eckhoff-yes Smallwood-absent; Eichler-yes; Sanders-yes; and Parrott-yes. Motion carried 6 yes, 0 no.

At 7:57 P.M., Mr. Smith excused himself from the meeting.

Board members discussed with Mr. Curtis and Mrs. Eckhoff the superintendent's performance.

At 8:02 P.M., Mr. Curtis and Mrs. Eckhoff excused themselves from the meeting so the board could conduct the annual evaluation of the Superintendent.

The board discussed the superintendent's evaluation.

Mr. Smith requested that his contract for the 27/28 school year to not be extended. It was the consensus of board members that Mr. Smith has met or exceeded all performance expectations in each performance area. A motion was made by Siercks, seconded by Eckhoff to keep Kevin Smith's superintendent contract for the 2027-2028 school year beginning on July 1, 2027 with the salary to be determined prior to July 1, 2027. Roll call vote of motion carried as follows:. Casey-yes; Siercks-yes; Eckhoff-yes Smallwood-absent; Eichler-yes; Sanders-yes; and Parrott-yes. Motion carried 6 yes, 0 no.

At 8:05 P.M. Mr. Smith was called back into the meeting and was informed of the contract offer.

There being no further business for executive session a motion was made by Sanders, seconded by Eckhoff to adjourn the executive session at 8:17 P.M. Roll call vote of motion carried as follows: Casey-yes; Siercks-yes; Eckhoff-yes Smallwood-absent; Eichler-yes; Sanders-yes; and Parrott-yes. Motion carried 6 yes, 0 no.

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President, Board of Education

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Secretary, Board of Education