BITTERROOT VALLEY EDUCATION COOPERATIVE MANAGEMENT BOARD

BVEC Board Meeting
October 27, 2026, 10:00AM
BVEC Conference Room/Zoom

MINUTES - DRAFT

1. Call to Order – Mr. Biesiot called the meeting to order at 10:04 AM. Board members in attendance: Mr. Biesiot via Zoom, Mr. Fiske, Ms. Weems, Mr. Jamison, and Mr. Konen. BVEC administration in attendance: Ms. Rammell and Ms. Gillespie. BVEC staff in attendance: Cami Hildebrand. Boad Clerk: Jill Reynolds.

2. Staff Representative - Cami Hildebrand, School Psychologist-Florence, BVEC CPI Instructor

3. Consent Agenda – Mr. Fiske made a motion to approve consent agenda. Ms. Weems seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously, 5-0.

A. Approval of Minutes
B. Approval of Warrants
C. Financial Report
D. Resignations: None
E. New Hires: None
F. Next Meeting Date: November 24, 2026

4. Public Comment – Ms. Hildebrand updated the Board on the CPI training, what went well, what did not go well. There were some attendance issues where people completed the online training but did not come to the training sessions. Board members discussed how they could support this going forward. It will help that Cami is going to attend the February Board meeting to discuss dates for training in the next school year which will be ahead of the districts preparing their PIR dates.

5. Correspondence and Communications – None.

6. Board Action - None

7. Information and Discussion

A. Maintenance of Effort – Ms. Reynolds reported on the temporary MOE reports from OPI. The cooperative as a whole met the maintenance of effort. Ms. Waggener has communicated with each district on the changes from year to year and we have an explanation from all on both increases and decreases.

B. Director's Report –

- Ms. Rammell provided an update on Ms. Mutchler, Occupational Therapist, and her return to work that is scheduled for Monday, November 2nd. Ms. Rammell explained that Ms. Mutchler might be working shorter days as she continues to recuperate. It is also possible Ms. Mutchler may need to request additional leave from the sick bank at some point.

- Ms. Rammell updated the Board on the status of hiring a second preschool para and substitute. Both positions have been posted, but we have not been able to fill them. Ms. Rammell is going to post some signs in front of the preschool and the BVEC office. Ms. Rammell asked if the Board knows of anyone who might be interested that they let her know.
- Ms. Rammell recently attended the MCASE meeting. She reported she is pleased with the OPI Special Education direction; she met the compliance monitors who have come on board with 7 or more years of experience, and all BVEC districts will be monitored in the 2027-28 school year. OPI will be doing some training in advance of monitoring.
  Ms. Rammell reported that there was no further information or update from OPI on this time regarding FAPE to 22. There will be a webinar from Kaleva Law in the near future that Meghan will lead.
- Ann Garfinkle has been at schools in the districts and reports favorably on our staff, their expertise, and their professionalism. Ms. Garfinkle will be meeting with our School Psychologist in November at the BVEC office.
- Ms. Rammell has seen an increase in questions regarding IEPs that include social and emotional learning. There is information and guidance on this subject on the OPI website and Ms. Rammell will be forwarding some information to the Superintendents.
- Child Count deadline is this Friday, October 30th. There is one additional step regarding private school counts that will have to be submitted electronically. There will be further information and instruction coming from OPI on private school counts.
- Child Find activities have been completed in all of our districts and our preschool. In total seventeen children were evaluated, three were referred to benchmark and three were referred for evaluation.

8. Adjournment – Mr. Biesiot adjourned the meeting at 10:42 AM.