

**Leeds Public School Board  
Special Meeting  
April 17, 2019**

*UNOFFICIAL minutes of the Leeds Public School District Board, to be read and approved at the next REGULAR meeting.*

Meeting was called to order at 5:01 p.m.

Present: Randy Gunderson, Tyson Follman, DeShawn Tofsrud, Elem Principal Roger Jensen, Superintendent Michael Silverman, Elem Principal Roger Jensen and Business Manager Maria Dunlap

Absent: Kim Nelsen and Jeff Jacobson

Present: Lisa Edison-Smith, Counselor for Leeds School District; Mr. Eugene Benner, teacher; and teacher's representatives: Mr. Mike Geiermann, NDU Legal Counsel, and Mr. Dana Hillius, NDU Representative.

Visitors: Bill Sullivan, Tiffany Sten, Amie Demontigny, Jana Darling, Diane Ripplinger, Susan Ripplinger, Beth Haagenson, Callie Parlson, Susan Braun, Debbie Dunlap, Teri Johnson, and 3 students.

Mr. Gunderson stated this is nonrenewal hearing is continued from hearing held on April 3, 2019, at 7:00 p.m. Mr. Mike Geiermann requested an open hearing for the nonrenewal.

Tyson Follman made a motion to move into executive session under NDCC 15.1-15-06 to contemplate the nonrenewal of Eugene Benner's contract for reasons for failure to meet the requirements of his contract including issues in classroom management, professional conduct, and proficiency as a teacher reflecting on his ability, competence and qualifications as outlined in his performance appraisals, classroom observations and formal personnel file that have not improved to an acceptable level to maintain employment. Motion was seconded by DeShawn Tofsrud and approved by Randy Gunderson, Tyson Follman and DeShawn Tofsrud.

All visitors were asked to leave the room.

Hearing moved into executive session at 5:04 p.m.

Tyson Follman moved to resume open meeting. Motion was seconded by DeShawn Tofsrud and approved by Randy Gunderson, Tyson Follman and DeShawn Tofsrud.

Open meeting resumed at 10:17 p.m.

Tyson Follman moved that the board finds that the reasons for nonrenewal have been substantiated; that the reasons for nonrenewal have been drawn from specific and documented findings with respect to the overall performance of the teacher, and are related to the reasons stated in the letter of contemplated nonrenewal, dated March 22, 2019, as formally reviewed by the board at this hearing; that the current contract of Eugene Benner not be renewed for the reasons stated in that letter; and that the business manager provide written notice to Mr. Benner of this determination not to renew said contract, on or before May 1. Motion was seconded by DeShawn Tofsrud. Motion was approved as follows: DeShawn Tofsrud--yes; Tyson Follman—yes; and Randy Gunderson—yes.

Tyson moved to adjourn meeting. Motion was seconded by DeShawn Tofsrud and approved by Randy Gunderson, Tyson Follman and DeShawn Tofsrud.

Meeting adjourned at 10:20 p.m.

Attest: Maria Dunlap, Business Manager