

BATTLE CREEK PUBLIC SCHOOLS BOARD OF EDUCATION

Board Work Session

July 8, 2019

3rd Floor Board Room, Administration Building 3 West Van Buren, Battle Creek, MI

5:30 p.m.

PRESENT - BOARD OF EDUCATION

Karen Evans

Catherine LaValley

Patty Poole-Gray

Charlie Fulbright

Absent

Art McClenney

Jacqueline Slaby

Kyra Wallace

Present – Administration

Kimberly M. Carter – Superintendent

Chandra Youngblood – Director, Elementary Education

Deborah Nuzzi – Director, Secondary Education

Monique Cheeks – Director, Student Services

Anita Harvey – Director, District Transformation

Nathan Hunt – Communications Manager

Mitch Fowler – Director, School Data Systems & Innovations

Laura Ash – Executive Director, Financial Services

MINUTES

The meeting was called to order by President Evans at 5:30 p.m. All board members were present except Art McClenney, Jacqueline Slaby and Kyra Wallace.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Catherine LaValley made a motion to approve the agenda with one addition – add D1- Fremont Audio Visual System under Reports.

Charlie Fulbright supported the motion.

Motion passed 4– 0

PUBLIC COMMENT

None

REPORTS

- A. NWMS Dean of Culture and Climate – Dr. Deborah Nuzzi stated to the board that a positive school environment supports student well-being and academic achievement but also engages teachers, staff, parents and community to be a part of a successful and supportive school environment. This will be achieved by a position whose primary focus is to collaboratively create research-informed systems and structures that facilitate an environment where students want to thrive and have the supports to learn. This position will be posted and will be placed on

the BCPS salary scale.

- B. Chromebooks for WK Preparatory High School – Dr. Deborah Nuzzi stated to the board that WK Preparatory High School will transition to the Blended Learning Model proven successful by the Bronx Arena High School. This model is made of self-contained classrooms and supported throughout their high school career by one classroom teacher, one support staff member, and several content specialists. Chromebooks and carts are needed to facilitate the transition to an Arena Model to ensure rigorous, college and career preparatory learning. The cost will be up to \$40,000 and paid for with the RAG funds.
- C. Calhoun ISD Technology Coordinator – Mitch Fowler stated to the board that a partnership with the CISD is needed to fund a full-time Technology Coordinator for BCPS. Due to the recent resignation of the Network Coordinator, the Department of Student Data and Innovation is without an in-house, technical skill set needed to recognize the vision of creating a world-class infrastructure. The cost of this position is \$138,040 and will be paid from the General Fund.
- D. Communication by Design – Middle School Audio Visual System – Mitch Fowler stated to the board that BCPS is seeking an implementation partner to assist with the procurement and installation coordination of new audio/visual systems at our two middle schools. The service is outside of the scope of the Technology Department. The project will be completed by Feyen Zylstra for the cost of \$16,475 and will be paid with the WKKF grant.
 - D1. Communication by Design – Fremont Audio/Visual System – Mitch Fowler stated to the board that with the opening of Fremont International Academy, BCPS is committed to providing a world-class instructional technology experience for staff and students. We are recommending a change order to the existing contract with Feyen Zylstra for the additional scope of installing A/V equipment at Fremont. The cost is \$20,426.06 and will be paid from the WKKF grant.
- E. Communications & Public Relations Support – Nathan Hunt stated to the board that communications has been key to BCPS transformation and to our success, including reshaping the narrative about the district and helping to stabilize enrollment. It is recommended that the board approve, through the RFO process, communications and public relations support. The cost is up to \$1,350,000 over three years and will be paid from the WKKF grant.
- F. Marketing, Branding & Advertising Support – Nathan Hunt stated to the board that communications and marketing go hand in hand. Marketing is key to the success of the BCPS transformation. With this in mind, it is recommended that the board approve, up to \$800,000 over the next three years, for marketing, branding and advertising support to be paid from the WKKF grant.
- G. BC STEM Innovation Center Marquee – Dr. Anita Harvey stated to the board that the primary entrance to the BC STEM Innovation Center will be on McCamley, providing families and students with a separate entrance from Battle Creek Central High School. This entrance location has the advantage of the crosswalk with a built-in stop light to access the parking lot across McCamley. It is recommended that a sign be purchased, including a digital marquee for messaging families, to be placed on the McCamley Street side of the property to mark the location of the BC STEM Innovation center for students and families. The cost is up to \$24,400 to be paid from the WKKF grant.

- H. Fremont Kitchen Restoration – Laura Ash stated that due to the small size of the kitchen and the fact that there are needs to be remodeled for licensing, it is recommended that upgrades be completed before opening the kitchen at Fremont International Academy. The cost of the upgrades is \$119,670.08 to be paid from the Food Service Fund.
- I. 2019-20 District Code of Conduct – Monique Cheeks presented the district code of conduct handbook for the 2019-2020 school year.
- J. 2019-2020 WK Preparatory High School Student Handbook – Monique Cheeks presented the 2019-20 student handbook for WK Prep High School.
- K. 2019-20 Middle School Student Handbook – Monique Cheeks presented to the board the 2019-2020 middle school student handbook. This is the handbook for Northwestern Middle School and Springfield Middle School.
- L. 2019-20 Elementary Student Handbook – Monique Cheeks presented the 2019-20 handbook for all of BCPS Elementary schools.
- M. BOE 2019-20 Work Sessions & Regular Meetings – President Evans discussed with the board the dates for the 2019-20 school board meetings. They are as follows:

July 8 & 22, 2019	August 12 & 26, 2019
September 9, 23, & 26*, 2019	October 14 & 28, 2019
November 18 & 25, 2019	December 9 & 16, 2019
January 13 & 27, 2020	February 10 & 24, 2020
March 9 & 23, 2020	April 13 & 27, 2020
May 11 & 18, 2020	June 8 & 22, 2020.
- *September 26 – Board Retreat.
- N. BOE Representative for Joint Planning Sessions – President Evans asked for a second person to represent the board at the joint meetings. Trustee Catherine LaValley volunteered to be the second representative for the Joint Planning Sessions.
- O. August BOE Retreat Date – President Evans discussed with the board possible dates for the retreat that will cover the BOE self-evaluations. President Evans will speak with other area boards to see how they handle their evaluations. It was agreed that the Board Retreat will take place on September 26, 5:30 p.m. Place will be determined.

PUBLIC COMMENT

None.

SUPERINTENDENT COMMENTS

None.

BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS

Patty Poole Gray – Kudos to the Superintendent for a job well done on the presentation at the Partnership Luncheon; it is important that we tell our own story.

Catherine LaValley – Attended the meeting hosted by the State Representative, Jim Haadsma. It was good to hear some of the things that he working on.

Charlie Fulbright – Huge kudos to Nathan for the work he is doing to change the image of BCPS; attended the VOCES family day – again thanked Nathan for manning the booth the whole day; reminded the board that the Pride Parade will take place on Friday, July 19 at 7 p.m.

President Evans – And with that, meeting adjourned.

Meeting adjourned at 6:43 p.m.

Submitted by: Gloria O. Wilkerson

Kyra Wallace, Board Secretary