

BATTLE CREEK PUBLIC SCHOOLS BOARD OF EDUCATION

Board Work Session

December 17, 2018

Miller Stone, 77 Capital SW, Battle Creek, MI 49107

5:30 p.m.

PRESENT - BOARD OF EDUCATION

Art McClenney

Catherine LaValley

Nathan Grajek

Kyra Wallace

Karen Evans

Absent

Jacqueline Slaby

Present – Administration

Kimberly M. Carter – Superintendent

Dr. Chandra Youngblood – Director, Elementary Education

Dr. Deborah Nuzzi – Director, Secondary Education

Heather Hudson – Executive Director, Human Resources

Laura Ash – Executive Director, Financial Services

Monique Cheeks – Director, Student Services

Chad Osborn – Director, Facilities, Maintenance & Technology

Mitch Fowler – Director, School Data Systems & Innovations

Dr. Anita Harvey – Director, District Transformation

Nathan Hunt – Communications Manager

MINUTES

The meeting was called to order by President Art McClenney at 5:32 p.m. All board members present
Trustee Jacqueline Slaby.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Karen Evans made a motion to approve the agenda as presented.

Catherine LaValley supported the motion.

Motion passed 5 – 0

ARTIST OF THE MONTH

Sasha McCreary is December Artist of the Month. Sasha's painting was selected as the district's holiday card. If you see Sasha in the halls of Ann J. Kellogg, please offer your congratulations.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Jim Haadsma spoke in support of Nathan Grajek to fill the vacant board seat.

VACANT BOARD SEAT

Trustee Evans read a statement on how the process will go to fill the vacant seat. All candidates will be asked the same ten questions as written on the rubric. The candidates were led to a holding area and asked to come before the board one at a time. After each candidate completed the questioning, they were invited to come back in the session. Each board member discussed the advantages and disadvantages of each candidate.

After a transparent process, Art McClenney made a motion to appoint Mr. Joseph Blythe to fill the vacant Board of Education seat.

Catherine LaValley supported that motion.

A roll call vote was taken.

Trustee LaValley – Yes
Trustee Wallace – No
Trustee Grajek – Abstain
Trustee Evans – No
Trustee McClenney – Y

Motion failed 2 -2-1

Karen Evans made a motion to appoint Mr. Charlie Fulbright to fill the vacant Board of Education seat.

Art McClenney supported that motion.

A roll call vote was taken.

Trustee LaValley – Yes
Trustee Wallace – Yes
Trustee Grajek – Abstain
Trustee Evans – Yes
Trustee McClenney – Yes

Motion passed 4 – 1

Catherine LaValley made a motion to add an item C. under New Business to add the Oath of Office for the incoming board member.

Karen Evans supported that motion.

Motion passed 5 – 0

Karen Evans made a motion to take a five minute break.

Kyra Wallace supported that motion.

Motion passed 5 – 0

Adjourned for a break at 7:09 p.m.
Reconvened at 7:15 p.m.

BATTLE CREEK HOUSING INITIATIVE UPDATE

To date, nine homebuyers have received down-payment assistance. One homebuyer and one homeowner are receiving rehab assistance.

ELEMENTARY MAGNET SCHOOL NAMING

Dr. Anita presented, for the second time, the names the committee would like to offer as possible names for the elementary magnet school. They are Fremont International Academy, Fremont Academy and Fremont Magnet School.

STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT UPDATE

Mitch Fowler presented the board with a student achievement update.

BCPS SUMMER PROGRAMS REPORT

Dr. Chandra Youngblood, Dr. Deborah Nuzzi, Larry Manley, Jr. and Tyler Gilland presented the summer school report. This report included student numbers and activities that took place over the summer of 2018.

DUDLEY RETUBE BOILER

Chad Osborn stated that the tubes in the boiler at Dudley have been there since 1956. There are eight tubes currently in need of replacement. Since the boiler will be down, it is best to replace all tubes as more of them will continue to leak throughout the years. Having them replaced all at once instead of replacing the ones that are leaking at that time will be a saving to the district.

Karen Evans made a motion to approve the boiler tube replacement at Dudley by Monarch Welding & Engineering, Inc. in the amount of \$17,875 to be paid from the building and site cost center.

Catherine LaValley supported the motion.

Motion passed 5 – 0

CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS

Karen Evans made a motion to approve the following consent agenda items:

- A. Minutes of the November 12 work session
- B. Bills for the Month of November 2018
- C. Personnel Changes and Recognition of Retirees
- D. Membership Report
- E. Financial Update

Kyra Wallace supported that motion.

Motion passed 5 – 0

MIDDLE SCHOOL STEM NAMING

Dr. Anita Harvey presented for a third time the following names for the Middle School STEM – Battle Creek STEM Innovation Center, Battle Creek 3D STEM, and Battle Creek Bearcat STEM Academy. Dr. Harvey stated that the committee recommended Battle Creek STEM Innovation Center.

Karen Evans made a motion to name the Middle School STEM School - Battle Creek STEM Innovation Center.

Nathan Grajek supported that motion.

Motion passed 5 – 0

ACADEMIES OF NASHVILLE SPRING 2019

Dr. Anita Harvey asked the board to approve sending a team to the Academies of Nashville Spring Study visit. This team would include:

- 2 board members
- BCPS superintendent

- District Curriculum and Instruction Coordinator
- BCCHS Principal
- BCCHS Gold Academy Principal
- BCCHS Counselor
- BCEA Union President or Representative
- 4 BCCHS teachers

Motion passed 4 – 1

OATH OF OFFICE

President McClenney and Vice President Evans presented the Oath of Office to Charlie Fulbright.

SUPERINTENDENT COMMENTS

Superintendent Carter thanked Trustee Grajek for his service and dedication to the board and invited him to attend the celebration in January; congratulations and welcome to Mr. Fulbright; thanked Mr. Blythe for his willingness to serve; last Friday, 11 business students competed in the Regional JA Titan Challenge against 38 other teams from Battle Creek and Kalamazoo. One of our teams led by Victor Lopez and Lynn Lorenzen tied for 2nd place and qualified for the National JA Titan Challenge in April making this their 3rd year in a row we will have a team to compete at the National level. Thanks to Mr. Coats for working with these students. Superintendent Carter also reminded the board of the 82nd band follies that is coming up in January along with the Hall of Fame and Seed Awards also as upcoming events.

BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS

Kyra Wallace – Thanked all of the candidates for their interest in the vacant seat; last Thursday participated in the Mock Interviews, they are really being taught for the future; attended NWMS band concert.

Catherine LaValley – Reminded the board of the 82nd Annual Celebration of the Band Follies to be held January 11 & 12, at 7 p.m.; and reminded the board of the holiday basketball tournament games that will be held over the break.

Karen Evans – Thanked all of the candidates for their interest in the vacant board seat.

Art McClenney – Thanked the candidate for coming – The State of Michigan is having trouble filling vacant seats and we had three to select from.

Nathan Grajek – Stated that it has been an honor to be on the board for the past four years; highlighted events during his tenure; asked the board to continue to work with our students and the community; keep believing in the change.

Meeting adjourned at 8:21 p.m.

Submitted by: Gloria O. Wilkerson

Catherine LaValley, Board Secretary