

BATTLE CREEK PUBLIC SCHOOLS BOARD OF EDUCATION

Regular Meeting

January 27, 2020

Fire Place Room of the Administration Building, 3 West Van Buren, Battle Creek, MI

5:30 p.m.

PRESENT – BOARD OF EDUCATION

Karen Evans

Charlie Fulbright

Catherine LaValley

Art McClenney

Patty Poole-Gray

Jackie Slaby

Kyra Wallace

Present – Administration

Kim Carter – Superintendent

Chandra Youngblood – Director, Elementary Education

Cheryl Johnson – Chief Executive Officer, Human Resources

Mitch Fowler – Director, School Data Systems & Innovations

Anita Harvey – Director, District Transformation

Laura Ash – Executive Director

Charles Lipsey – Director, Facilities and Operations

MINUTES

The meeting was called to order by President Evans at 5:31 p.m. All Board Members were present.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Catherine LaValley made a motion to approve the agenda as written.

Charlie Fulbright supported the motion.

Catherine LaValley noted the 4 Board Policy items were moved under the consent agenda items.

Motion passed 7 – 0

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Stephen Johnkoski addressed the Board regarding the Follies. He is a Proud Bearcat and a 1972 Graduate. He feels his BCPS education has served him well and he is a well-rounded educator. He is very impressed with the Band Follies program and has heard from many of his colleagues that it is an impressive program. Stephen learned there was not a Student Jazz Band this year and he wanted to inquire why that situation occurred and hopes it can be put back in place. He indicated he has several ideas he would love to share.

REPORTS

A. Board Appreciation

Superintendent Carter discussed tonight being a time to pause and appreciate the Board for their Champion work for BCPS without pay and to honor them for all that they do.

The Post-Franklin Chorus honored the Board with a song “A Hero Comes Along”. Sima Thurman, Principal, acknowledged that Charlie Fulbright is the Board Member assigned to their building and they appreciate that Charlie is hands on at all events he attends, he sells candy, picks up trash, whatever is needed. Sima presented Charlie with a gift and gift card for dinner on them.

Brandon Phenix, Principal at Fremont International Academy, acknowledged Charlie Fulbright as the Board Member assigned to their building. Brandon thanked Charlie for his service and presented him with a house plant with a planter designed by some of the students to thank Charlie for helping their program grow.

Ann J. Kellogg recognized Kyra Wallace for her service as the Board Member assigned to their building. A couple of students spoke and the Ann J. Kellogg Chorus honored the Board with a song “I Wanna Be A Leader”. Crescenda Jones, Principal, thanked Kyra for her service and indicated Ann J. is a family that works and learns together every day. Crescenda thanked Kyra for giving her unique strength and making a difference in the community and presented her with an artwork piece using small wooden popsicle sticks that were created by each student.

Greg Bish, Valley View Elementary Principal, recognized Catherine LaValley for her service as the Board Member assigned to their building. Greg shared that Catherine comes every Wednesday to help with popcorn and pickles, she is active in the Parent Literacy and Literacy Nights. Greg presented Catherine with flowers and a book made by the students that contained a print from each student.

Angela Morris, LaMora Park Principal, recognized Catherine LaValley for her service as the Board Member assigned to their building. Angela indicated they appreciate Catherine’s building visits, her attendance at their events and her support. Angela presented Catherine with LaMora Park t-shirts.

Dr. Deborah Nuzzi reported that she was standing in for Luke Perry, Math and Science Center Director, who is out ill. Dr. Nuzzi recognized Jacqueline Slaby as the Board Member assigned to the Math and Science Center and expressed Luke’s appreciation for her support and ideas of their program. Dr. Nuzzi presented Jacqueline with a mug.

Susan Basso, BC STEM Principal, recognized Jacqueline Slaby as the Board Member assigned to their building. Susan expressed their appreciation for Jacqueline's support and help in allowing their program. Susan presented Jacqueline with a card signed by all the students and a 3D STEM coin (1st print).

Deborah Linden, Dudley Elementary Principal, recognized Patty Poole-Gray as the Board Member assigned to their building. Deborah expressed their appreciation of Patty's support and efforts. Deborah presented Patty with a poster signed by all the students and a golf shirt.

Stephenie Bruce, Northwestern Middle School Principal, recognized Patty Poole-Gray as the Board Member assigned to their building. Stephenie expressed their love and appreciation of Patty. Stephenie noted Patty trusts them with her family and she believes in them. Stephenie presented Patty with a planter and a book of great memories in their building.

Calvin Williams, WK Kellogg Preparatory High School Principal, recognized President Karen Evans as the Board Member assigned to their building. Calvin indicated that President Evans is a phenomenal Board Member and like a family member to them, truly Amazing. Calvin presented President Evans with a wicker framed mirror.

Toni McClenney, Battle Creek Central High School Gold Community Principal, reported that she had the Admin Team with her this evening and they wanted to recognize Art McClenney as the Board Member assigned to their building. Toni reported that Trustee McClenney is very proud to be a Bearcat and 1978 Graduate. She said he is always fighting for students and teachers. Although he has 41 years of Bearcat stuff, Toni said they decided to give him more Bearcat stuff and presented Art with a personalized Battle Creek Central Football jacket and a Bearcat (old style) plate.

Meri Shabani, Springfield Middle School Principal, recognized Art McClenney as the Board Member assigned to their building. Meri thanked Art for his service and support and presented him with Springfield Middle School t-shirts and a High 5 Friday Bearcat Mitt.

Superintendent Kim Carter again expressed her appreciation for all the Board Members do in support of and for Battle Creek Public Schools. Superintendent Carter presented each Board Member with a Certificate for their dedication and a BCPS Blanket.

President Karen Evans thanked everyone for their appreciation and indicated it was nice being appreciated.

CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS

Catherine LaValley made a motion to approve the following Consent Agenda Items:

- A. Trust Fund/Comerica (Written only)
- B. Minutes of the work session on December 9, 2019 and regular meeting on December 16, 2019
- C. Bills for the Month of December 2019
- D. Personnel Changes and Recognition of Retirees
- E. Membership Report
- F. Financial Update
- G. GVSU Education Overnight Summer Camp
- H. Approval of Board Policy 2450 – Discrimination and Complaint Policy
- I. Approval of Board Policy 1300-3 – Remote Participation During Board Meetings
- J. Approval of Board Policy 1300-2 – Board Meetings
- K. Approval of Board Policy 8000 – Service Animals

Kyra Wallace supported the motion.

Motion passed 7 – 0

NEW BUSINESS

- A. Superintendent Carter expressed her support of and recommended the Board approve the Chromebooks & Charging Carts for Ann J. Kellogg in the amount of \$27,495.00 with Ann J. Kellogg Title I as the Funding Source.

Motion by Patty Poole-Gray to approve the Chromebooks and Charging Carts for Ann J. Kellogg in the amount of \$27,495.00 with Ann J. Kellogg Title I as the Funding Source.

Catherine LaValley supported the motion.

Motion passed 7 – 0

- B. Superintendent Carter expressed her support of and recommended the Board approve the Chromebooks & Charging Carts for Verona in the amount of \$18,400.00 with Verona Title I as the Funding Source.

Motion by Catherine LaValley to approve the Chromebooks and Charging Carts for Verona in the amount of \$18,400.00 with Verona Title I as the Funding Source.

Charlie Fulbright supported the motion.

Motion passed 7 – 0

- C. Superintendent Carter expressed her support of and recommended the Board approve the Reading Mastery Teacher & Student Intervention Materials for Verona in the amount of \$13,467.00 with Verona Title I as the Funding Source.

Motion by Kyra Wallace to approve the Reading Mastery Teacher & Student Intervention Materials for Verona in the amount of \$13,467.00 with Verona Title I as the Funding Source.

Charlie Fulbright supported the motion.

Motion passed 7 – 0

- D. Superintendent Carter expressed her support of and recommended the Board approve the LaMora-Park Elementary 95% Group Contract in the amount of \$22,620.00 with LaMora-Park Title I as the Funding Source.

Motion by Catherine LaValley to approve the LaMora-Park Elementary 95% Group Contract in the amount of \$22,620.00 with LaMora-Park Title I as the Funding Source.

Charlie Fulbright supported the motion.

Motion passed 7 – 0

- E. Superintendent Carter expressed her support of and recommended the Board approve the Dudley Elementary 95% Group Contract in the amount of \$12,826.00 with Dudley Title I as the Funding Source.

Motion by Patty Poole-Gray to approve the Dudley Elementary 95% Group Contract in the amount of \$12,826.00 with Dudley Title I as the Funding Source.

Charlie Fulbright supported the motion.

Motion passed 7 – 0

- F. Superintendent Carter expressed her support of and recommended the Board approve the Valley View Elementary Math Coaching in the amount of \$12,900.00 with Valley View Title I as the Funding Source.

Motion by Kyra Wallace to approve the Valley View Elementary Math Coaching in the amount of \$12,900.00 with Valley View Title I as the Funding Source.

Catherine LaValley supported the motion.

Motion passed 7 – 0

- G. Superintendent Carter expressed her support of and recommended the Board approve the Chromebooks for the English Learners Program in the amount of \$13,321.00 with Section 41 Grant as the Funding Source.

Motion by Charlie Fulbright to approve the Chromebooks for the English Learners Program in the amount of \$13,321.00 with Section 41 Grant as the Funding Source.

Catherine LaValley supported the motion.

Motion passed 7 – 0

- H. Superintendent Carter expressed her support of and recommended the Board approve Phase I of the BC STEM Branding in the amount of \$24,018.33 with WKKF Grant as the Funding Source.

Superintendent Carter indicated it should be noted the Committee has taken under advisement the Board's recommendation to look into how to integrate both student and community branding in Phase II.

Motion by Catherine LaValley to approve the BC STEM Branding to incorporate student and community focuses in the amount of \$24,018.33 with WKKF Grant as the Funding Source.

Superintendent Carter corrected the Motion because Phase I does not have that and it would be Phase II, which is not yet here before the Board.

Catherine LaValley suggested voting on this Motion.

There was no support and the Motion died.

Motion by Catherine LaValley to approve BC STEM Branding Phase I in the amount of \$24,018.33 with WKKF Grant as the Funding Source.

Patty Poole-Gray supported the Motion.

President Evans asked if there was any discussion.

Jacqueline Slaby expressed concern that Phase I and Phase II were not both included in the Board Packet. Jacqueline further indicated she wanted to state the reasons why she would be voting "No" on this Motion. She feels it is a missed opportunity for showcasing student artwork and reaching out to bring the community into the school. She also has concerns about the sustainability of the STEM artwork as it may relate to the future use of the building and/or program.

Catherine LaValley thanked Trustee Slaby for her thoughts and further indicated she would support not having STEM letters that were included in the project.

Charlie Fulbright inquired if Phase I included having the STEM letters stay. Superintendent Carter reported that they will be removing the STEM lettering in Phase I.

Motion passed 6 – 1

- I. Superintendent Carter expressed her support of and recommended the Board approve the Classroom Libraries Furniture in the amount of \$100,000.00 with WKKF Grant as the Funding Source.

Motion by Kyra Wallace to approve the Classroom Libraries Furniture in the amount of \$100,000.00 with WKKF Grant as the Funding Source.

Catherine LaValley supported the motion.

Motion passed 7 – 0

- J. Superintendent Carter discussed the Resolution Appointing a Member of District Library Board of Trustees indicating that Judith Williamson has expressed a desire to be re-appointed for a 3 year term starting July 1, 2020 through June 30, 2023.

Motion by Charlie Fulbright to approve the appointment of Judith Williamson to serve on the District Library Board of Trustees for the term of July 1, 2020 through June 30, 2023.

Kyra Wallace supported the motion.

President Evans asked if there was any discussion.

Jacqueline Slaby expressed an interest in having Judith Williamson present to the Board sometime as she personally would love to hear about Judith's service, what she does and how she represents Battle Creek Public Schools.

Catherine LaValley indicated she believed the Motion needed to have a short statement read by Kyra Wallace, Secretary, from the Resolution.

Kyra Wallace read the following language from the Resolution:

WHEREAS, the Willard Public Library (the "Library") was established by Agreement dated March 1, 1994 (the "District Library Agreement"), entered into among the Boards of Education of the Harper Creek Community Schools, the Lakeview School District, the Pennfield School District, and the School District of the City of Battle Creek (the "Parties") under the provisions of Act 24, Michigan Public Acts of 1989, as amended ("Act 24"); and

WHEREAS, and pursuant to the terms of the District Library Agreement, the Board of Education of the School District has appointed a member of the Library Board of Trustees whose term is about to expire; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Education of the School District determines it is necessary to reappoint to the Library Board of Trustee.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT:

- 1. The Board of Education of the School District hereby appoints the following individual to serve on the District Library Board of Trustees: Judith Williamson. Term: July 1, 2020 – June 30, 2023.*
- 2. All resolutions and parts of resolution in conflict with this resolution are hereby repealed to the extent of such conflict.*

Motion passed 7 – 0

K. CASBMA Nominations

CASBMA Nominations included the following individuals:

President Evans nominated LaJune Montgomery Tabron (community) and Tyler Gilland (professional). President Evans presented her justification for her nominations.

Catherine LaValley nominated Kathy Szenda Wilson (professional), Karolynn Ferguson (citizen), Dora and Delilah DeMaso (citizen) and Melvin McNight (citizen). Catherine presented her justification for her nominations.

Patty Poole-Gray nominated Catherine LaValley (citizen) and presented her justification for this nomination.

Jacqueline Slaby nominated Roxie Perry (professional) and Catherine LaValley (citizen) and presented her justification for her nominations.

Superintendent Carter clarified the nomination categories for the above individuals and the need for some of them to change based on the nomination criteria.

Motion by Kyra Wallace to nominate Roxie Perry for the CASBMA Professional Award.

Catherine LaValley supported the Motion.

Motion passed 6 – 1

Catherine LaValley thanked the Board for their nominations, indicating she was greatly touched by the nominations. She loves the Battle Creek Public Schools District and doesn't do what she does for the awards or the recognition.

Motion by Art McClenney to nominate Karolynn Ferguson for the CASBMA Citizens Award.

Catherine LaValley supported the Motion.

Motion passed 7 – 0

L. Board Meeting Guidelines / Norms

President Evans provided a list of Suggested Norms which the Board reviewed and discussed at the meeting. Changes were made to the Suggested Norms.

Art McClenney made a motion to approve the Board Meeting Guidelines / Norms.

Catherine LaValley supported the motion.

Catherine LaValley read the Board Meeting Guidelines / Norms aloud, which are as follows:

1. *We will keep our focus on the best interests of our students and remain positive in our intent.*
2. *We will be supportive of any decision the Board makes, whether we are for it or against it.*
3. *We will show respect for each other, staff, community members and students by valuing others thoughts and ideas and by using respectful body language.*
4. *We will respect team meeting times; notifying President if arriving late or not at all.*
5. *We will build upon the ideas of others and look for common ground we will paraphrase for understanding.*
6. *We will wait to be called upon by the President before speaking.*
7. *We reserve the right to call a time out if anyone needs a break.*
8. *We will stay focused on our goals and avoid getting side tracked.*

Motion passed 7 – 0

PUBLIC COMMENT

None.

SUPERINTENDENT COMMENTS

Superintendent Carter again thanked the Board for their service to students and the community.

BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS

Art McClenney mentioned he was not at the last Board Meeting but wanted to extend his congratulations to Superintendent Carter and the staff for the success of the Governor's visit. Al noted he was proud of the students as well and that it was good to watch the students and staff interact with the Governor.

Art McClenney welcomed GVSU to the District. He has heard a lot of positive feedback from other Board members about GVSU. He enjoyed the Grand Opening and encouraged everyone to visit the Outreach Center and see what's going on.

Jacqueline Slaby indicated her desire to piggy-back on what Art McClenney said. Jacqueline requested that GVSU come to a Board Meeting and discuss the program.

Jacqueline Slaby reminded everyone of the Breaking Barriers meeting tomorrow at New Level Sports from 6:00-8:00pm. This meeting will discuss housing discrimination, home ownership, evictions and rentals.

Catherine LaValley mentioned attending several events in the District and how great they were (January 15th Grace Health Meeting at Springfield Middle School where she met the nurse practitioner, Amanda Anderson; Fremont and BC Stem informational programs; WK Kellogg Prep Graduation; Literacy Night; January 16th Awareness to Action Meeting).

Catherine LaValley passed on her thanks for the Board Appreciation Recognition.

Charlie Fulbright mentioned this is why Catherine LaValley was a nominee for the CASBMA award, because she is everywhere.

Charlie Fulbright shared his appreciation for the Board passing the Discrimination and Complaint and Gender Equity Policy. He attended the WK Prep Graduation and commented it was a heartfelt ceremony and such a great feeling.

Charlie Fulbright sent a huge thanks to the schools for Board Appreciation and indicated he loves volunteering.

President Karen Evans commented that she also attended the WK Prep Graduation and she loves all the graduates. She said the staff is amazing in the way they handle all the challenges for these students.

President Karen Evans commended Superintendent Carter for her involvement outside the District, noting that attended the MCEA Conference, is going to the AASA Conference in San Diego in February to highlight our growing childhood work and sharing our findings with our Districts, is going to a conference in March with GVSU to highlight our partnership and sharing work to help other Districts, and is attending the Governor's State of the State Address where the Governor is going to mention and highlight BCPS.

President Karen Evans thanked everyone for the Board Appreciation.

Superintendent Carter shared that Chartwell's donated all of the food for the Board Appreciation Reception prior to the meeting.

Meeting adjourned – 7:21 p.m.

Submitted by

Patti Worden

Kyra Wallace
Board Secretary