

**BATTLE CREEK PUBLIC SCHOOLS BOARD OF EDUCATION**

**Board Work Session**

**September 10, 2018**

**3<sup>rd</sup> Floor Board Room, Administration Building 3 West Van Buren, Battle Creek, MI**

**5:30 p.m.**

**PRESENT - BOARD OF EDUCATION**

Art McClenney

Karen Evans

Catherine LaValley

Nathan Grajek

Kyra Wallace

Eric Jankowski

**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 & 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 5:30 p.m. All board members present except Trustee Jacqueline Slaby.

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

Eric Jankowski made a motion to approve the agenda as presented.

Nathan Grajek supported the motion.

**Motion passed 6 – 0**

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

Toni Ardis – Wanted to know if the schools that are assigned to Trustee Slaby will be reassigned; and is concerned about her 9<sup>th</sup> grader's bus route.

Kristin Blood – thanked and congratulated the Link Crew.

### **OUTDOOR EDUCATION CENTER**

Jeff English discussed the 3-year business plan which will provide sustainability then move towards growth. The plan will restore, repair or upgrade to support existing programs.

### **BCPD CONTRACT – Police Liaison**

Monique Cheeks discussed the changes in the Police Liaison contract. The rate for the officer will be \$85,964 – a recurring expense for three years.

### **FORD NEXT GENERATION LEARNING (NGL) UPDATE**

Dr. Anita Harvey provided an update of where we are with Ford NGL. She discussed the five phases of the NGL Roadmap. There will be an open communication session will be held in McQuiston on Thursday, September 13, 6 p.m. for family members and the community to come and hear in-depth discussion of the roadmap. Marshall Plan for Talent partners with BCPS to support the implementation of the roadmap plan.

### **MODEL SCHOOLS**

District Transformation Coaches Rhonda Washington and Palak Patel provided an overview of what was learned at the Model Schools Conference, along with other staff members who attended.

### **KINDERGARTEN KINDLE PLAN**

Dr. Chandra Youngblood discussed the kindergarten kindle plan as a program to provide kindergarten students with a free kindle with access to books and educational apps outside of the school setting. The goal is to increase student access to literacy for kindergarten students and their siblings when they are not in school. The cost will be between \$39,000 and \$45,000, depending on the number of students. Funds from the Old WKKF Early Childhood grant and the technology department will be used.

### **CONTRACT FOR 21<sup>ST</sup> CENTURY EVALUATOR**

Larry Manley, Jr. discuss to be in compliance with the grant rules, 21<sup>st</sup> Century must hire a local evaluator for the grant. This local evaluator will be responsible to submit all required data to the Michigan Department of Education. The evaluator will provide the data and information for the program to drive continuous improvement.

### **DISTRICT COMPUTER PURCHASE**

Chad Osborn said that the district purchased staff laptops in 2013 and it is time to upgrade these units. The replacement will allow staff to connect to document cameras, projectors and smart boards in their classrooms to enhance student learning. The updated laptops will help support our district's goal of high academic achievement by allowing the staff the ability to collect student achievement and perception data. Additionally, web-based tools will allow for the analysis and action planning based on up-to-date student information. The total cost is \$325,345.50. \$290,000 of the cost will be paid from the WKKF grant and \$35,345.50 will come from the sinking fund.

### **OUTDOOR EDUCATION CENTER RENOVATIONS**

Chad Osborn discussed that the Michigan Department of Licensing and Regulatory Affairs has marked the OEC as non-compliant in several areas. These areas are related to infrastructure fire safety concerns with the lodge and the boys and girls dorm. The cost will be \$235,380 from the sinking fund.

### **WK PREP KITCHEN WATER HEATER REPLACEMENT**

Chad Osborn discussed that the water heater that supplies hot water to the kitchen at WK Prep stopped working and needed to be replaced. This was found in early August and the water heater had to be replaced as soon as possible so the kitchen could be inspected by the health department and ready to

open for the start of the school year. This was deemed an emergency so the kitchen could pass inspection. The total cost was \$14,831.31 from the Sinking Fund cost center.

### **ANN J. KELLOGG WHITEBOARD PANELS**

Chad Osborn discussed purchasing whiteboard panels for the remaining classrooms in Ann J. The whiteboard panels will be installed directly over the existing chalkboards. The white board panels will be in all classrooms at Ann J for teachers to use with their instruction. The cost is \$10,154.47 for 19 classrooms and will be paid from the General fund.

### **BCAMSC INTERNSHIP COORDINATOR**

Dr. Deborah Nuzzi stated the BCAMSC Senior Internship in STEM fields is one of the premier experiences provided to BCAMSC seniors in good standing. Its purpose is to expose students to STEM career experiences here in the Battle Creek area, in companies that are seeking to build a pipeline of potential employees with the skills and experiences they are seeking in their workforce. The internship experience has resulted in companies hiring our students once they have graduated from college, summer working internships for students returning home from college during breaks, and students having the exposure to the realities of the workforce in a STEM field of their choice. Corporations like Kellogg's have altered their worldwide internship procedures in order for BCAMSC high school students to work in their Global IT department tackling real world data in order to advise the company on how to move forward. Connecting students to corporations, companies, and businesses in Calhoun County in areas of student interest, evaluating experiences, maintaining required records, performing site visits, coordinating student and internship provider needs is a difficult and time-intensive process. While students are given a teacher of record, the coordination of all these aspects is more than a classroom teacher has time to do effectively and efficiently. Hiring an internship coordinator would allow the BCAMSC to continue to provide this internship experience to students, create and strengthen new and existing relationship with local STEM employers, and potentially expand the opportunity to more students overall. The cost of the internship is \$16,000 to be paid from the BCAMSC budget.

### **M-STEP UPDATE**

Mitch Fowler reviewed the Spring 2018 M-STEP results.

### **ATTENDANCE PROCLAMATION**

Secretary LaValley read the attendance proclamation that would be adopted by the board.

Catherine LaValley made a motion to accept the attendance proclamation as read.

Kyra Wallace supported that motion.

President McClenney called for a roll-call vote.

Trustee Grajek – Y                      Trustee LaValley – Y                      Trustee Evans – Y  
Trustee Jankowski – Y                      Trustee Wallace – Y                      President McClenney – Y

**Motion passed 6 – 0**

### **SUPERINTENDENT COMMENTS**

Superintendent Carter thanked the Bearcat Ambassadors, board members and staff for being involved in welcoming students back on their first day of school and the open house events; encouraged the community members to come to McQuiston on September 13 to hear the update on Next Generation

Learning; invited parents to the District Parent Advisory meeting to be held on Tuesday, September 18 at 5:30 p.m. in the board room; told the board about the Challenge 5 campaign that would be rolled out soon.

### **BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS**

Catherine LaValley – Attended literacy night at Verona, Ann J Kellogg and LaMora Park; OEC with 2<sup>nd</sup> graders from Valley View; attended Dr. David Kirkland presentation, senior honors program, WK Prep, Adult Ed and BCCHS graduations, and the Drumming presentation at Ann J; and will attend the Juneteeth Celebration at Claude Evans Park.

Eric Jankowski – Attended three graduations in one week; attended Ann J’s production of Cinderella; attended Greenfield Village with Valley View’s 5<sup>th</sup> graders – they represented BCPS well; kudos to Toni McClenney and her staff for how she handled the venue change for graduation; and finally after 25 years of participating at that school, thanks to Valley View for all of the wonderful memories.

Jacqueline Slaby – Attended graduation honors program and SMS awards program.

Nathan Grajek – Thanks to the staff for all they did to prepare the students for graduation; looking forward to the Juneteenth celebration and the Pow Wow.

Karen Evans – Enjoyed the graduations and proud of the staff for making things happen.

Art McClenney – Thanks to the staff for a great year; the honor society hosted an excellent program; graduation week was one of the most successful graduations in the community – all seats were filled! Community is invited to join us for School Board meetings. They are open to the public.

Meeting adjourned at 7:47 p.m.

Submitted by: Gloria O. Wilkerson

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*Catherine LaValley, Board Secretary*