

BATTLE CREEK PUBLIC SCHOOLS BOARD OF EDUCATION

Regular Board Meeting

August 26, 2019

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

5:30p.m.

PRESENT – BOARD OF EDUCATION

Karen Evans
Catherine LaValley
Charlie Fulbright
Patty Poole-Gray
Kyra Wallace
Jacqueline Slaby

Board Members Absent

Art McClenney

Present – Administration

Laura Ash –Executive Director, Business Operations
Kimberly Carter – Superintendent
Monique Cheeks – Director, Student Services & Pupil Accounting
Mitch Fowler – Director, School Data Systems & Innovations
Anita Harvey – Director, District Transformation
Nathan Hunt – Communications Manager
Cheryl Johnson – Chief Human Resources Officer
Dr. Deborah Nuzzi – Director, Secondary Education
Chandra Youngblood – Director, Elementary Education

MINUTES

The meeting was called to order by President Evans at 5:30 p.m. Attempts were made to connect Trustee Slaby via teleconference. There were an additional 14 staff and community members present.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Catherine LaValley made a motion to approve the agenda with the correction of adding item H. MASB Delegate under New Business.

Charlie Fulbright supported the motion.

Motion passed 6– 0

PUBLIC COMMENT

Mel Evans – Concerns regarding the lack of usage on the BCCHS track.

CONSENT AGENDA ITEM

Catherine LaValley made a motion to approve the following consent agenda items:

A. Trust Fund / Comerica (written only the report)

- B. Minutes of the July 8 work session and the July 22 regular meeting
- C. Bills for the Month of July 2019
- D. Personnel Changes and Recognition of Retirees
- E. 2019--20 BCCHS Handbook
- F. Reauthorization of BCPS Sexual Education Curriculum

Charlie Fulbright supported the motion.

Motion passed 6 – 0

REPORTS

- A. Middle School Spanish via MiVirtual School – Dr. Deborah Nuzzi stated to the board that in order to meet the instructional needs of middle school students, it is imperative that we discover an acceptable variation for them to learn Spanish. We have not yet been able to secure a certified Spanish teacher or a long term substitute. MiVirtual is known for the most successful rate of student learning for an on-line alternative. The cost to use MiVirtual is up to \$21,775 and will be paid from the General Fund.
- B. Fremont International Academy – Before and After School Care – Dr. Anita Harvey stated that effective afterschool programs bring a wide range of benefits to youth, families and communities. They can boost academic performance, reduce risk behaviors, promote physical health, and provide a safe, structured environment for children of working parents. Currently, BCPS offers the 21st Century Program in all of the Elementary buildings. Fremont could not be included in the grant application as it was not an established entity. The Battle Creek YMCA will provide a foundation in physical wellness, youth development, social responsibility and community engagement with all participating families that deepens their students’ learning and engagement. Before school services shall be from 7 a.m. – 8:30 a.m. and after school services shall be from 3:50 – 6:00 p.m. The cost of this service is up to \$118,000 and will be paid from the WKKF Grant.
- C. National Equity Project Contract – Superintendent Carter stated to the board that over the last four years, BCPS has partnered with the National Equity Project to foster and develop leaders capacity to disrupt inequitable practices. The National Equity Project partners with leaders to transform outcomes, experiences, and life trajectories of young people and families who have been historically underserved by their public institutions. The cost of this contract is not to exceed \$200,000 to be paid from the WKKF Grant.

NEW BUSINESS

- A. Charlie Fulbright made a motion to approve Middle School Spanish via MiVirtual in the amount up to \$21,477 to be paid from the General Fund.

Patty Poole-Gray supported the motion.

Motion passed 6- 0

- B. Patty Poole Gray made a motion to approve the Before and After School Care for Fremont International Academy with the Battle Creek YMCA in the amount up to \$118,000 to be paid from the WKKF grant.

Kyra Wallace supported the motion.

Motion passed 6 – 0

- C. Charlie Fulbright made a motion to approve the National Equity Project Contract in the amount up to \$200,000 to be paid from the WKKF Grant.

Catherine LaValley supported the motion.

Motion passed 6 – 0

- D. Catherine LaValley made a motion to approve the OEC Forestry pricing.

Jacqueline Slaby supported the motion.

After much discussion, the agenda item should have been to approve the cost increase of the camp instead of the Forestry Pricing as the Forestry project is under the board approval amount. So the vote was to increase the camp costs to be in line with other area camps.

Motion passed 6 – 0

- E. Charlie Fulbright made a motion to approve the WK Prep High School Tracker system in the amount of \$30,000 to be paid from the WKKF Grant.

Catherine LaValley supported the motion.

Motion passed 5 – 1

- F. Charlie Fulbright made a motion to approve the BCCHS Science Textbooks in the amount of \$32,111.63 to be paid from the WKKF Grant.

Catherine LaValley supported the motion.

Motion passed 6 – 0

- G. Catherine LaValley made a motion to approve the 2019-20 Nurses Contract in the amount of \$119,474.71 to be paid from At Risk Funds.

Charlie Fulbright supported the motion.

Motion passed 6- 0

- H. President Evans asked the board who would be attending the MASB Annual Leadership Conference in November. After much discussion, Catherine LaValley made a motion to approve President Evans as the delegate for the 2019 ALC and Kyra Wallace as the alternate.

Charlie Fulbright supported the motion.

Motion passed 6 – 0

PUBLIC COMMENT

None.

SUPERINTENDENT COMMENTS

Superintendent Carter thanked the staff and parents for wonderful building open houses; the school year is off to a great start; BC STEM is going great – we have 59 enrollees and 59 have been in attendance; Fremont International Academy is off to a great start as well.

BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS

Jacqueline Slaby– Enjoyed the Community Walk and Designation Day.

Patty Poole-Gray – Attended Opening Day Ceremony and enjoyed seeing all the new teachers; had lunch with Verona staff and visited Dudley.

Kyra Wallace – Attended Opening Day, and the Community Walk – the bus was a great idea.

Charlie Fulbright – Concurred with board members regarding Opening Day and Community Walk; wanted to invite the board and the communities to Post Franklin's neighborhood block party on September 7, 1 -4 p.m.

Catherine LaValley – Was an Ambassador for BC Stem and LaMora Park; attended BCAMSC Open House.

Karen Evans – Also was an Ambassador for BC Stem and attended a wonderful Designation Day!

Meeting adjourned at 6:34 p.m.

Submitted by Gloria O. Wilkerson

Kyra Wallace, Board Secretary