

BATTLE CREEK PUBLIC SCHOOLS BOARD OF EDUCATION

Regular Meeting

April 25, 2022

**Board Room at the Administration Building, 3 West Van Buren Street, Battle Creek, MI
5:30p.m.**

PRESENT – BOARD OF EDUCATION

Catherine LaValley

Kyra Wallace

Patty Poole-Gray

Charlie Fulbright

Jacqueline Slaby

Art McClenney

Nathan Grajek

Present – Administration

Kim Carter – Superintendent

Mitch Fowler – Assistant Superintendent of Curriculum, Instruction and Assessment

Jeff English – Senior Executive Director of Business Operations

Rhonda Potts - Executive Director

Dr. Chandra Youngblood – Director, Elementary Education

Dr. Deborah Nuzzi, Director, Special Programming & Literacy Services

Dr. Anita Harvey – Director, District Transformation

Robin Beyer – Acting Director, Human Resources

Monique Cheeks – Director, Student Services

Nathan Hunt – Communications Manager

Wes Seeley – Director of Grant, Federal Programs and Adult Education

MINUTES

The meeting was called to order by President LaValley at 5:30pm. Catherine LaValley, Kyra Wallace, Patty Poole-Gray, Charlie Fulbright, Jacqueline Slaby, Art McClenney and Nathan Grajek were present.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Motion by Vice President Kyra Wallace to approve the Agenda as presented.

Treasurer Charlie Fulbright supported the Motion.

Motion passed 7 – 0.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

President Catherine LaValley discussed the Public Comment process.

Altamiece Cooper
35 Christy Road
Battle Creek MI 49015
269-274-2478

Altamiece shared that she is a 2nd Year Long-Term Sub at BCCHS.

She heard the conversation at the last Board Meeting about the Police Officer Liaison carrying a gun and Board Members wondering how students felt about that.

Altamiece said she has 7 classes so she asked each of her classes about the Officer carrying a gun. The students indicated they don't notice he has a gun and they feel safer because he does. Altamiece said she has watched Officer Perry break up fights and he uses his hands. She watches him making relationships with students.

She also asked staff members how they feel about Officer Perry carrying a gun. They indicated they feel safer with him having protection on him, noting she does too. She added if something happens, staff and students need to know there is someone in the building with a weapon to protect them.

CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS

Motion by Vice President Kyra Wallace to approve the Consent Agenda items.

- A. Trust Fund/Comerica (Written only)
- B. Minutes of the Work Session on March 14, 2022 and Regular Meeting on March 23, 2022
- C. Bills for the Month of March 2022
- D. Personnel Changes and Recognition of Retirees
- E. Membership Report
- F. Finance Report

Treasurer Charlie Fulbright supported the Motion.

Motion passed 7 – 0.

REPORTS & RECOMMENDATIONS

Bi-Lingual Student Summer Kits

Wes Seeley discussed the Bi-Lingual Student Summer Kits in the amount of \$41,850.00 using Section 41 Grant Funds.

The Board will vote on this matter at the Work Session on May 9, 2022.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

None.

NEW BUSINESS

2022-23 BCPD Police Officer Liaison Contract

Motion by Trustee Art McClenney to approve the 2022-23 BCPD Police Officer Liaison Contract in the amount of \$98,750.00 with the Funding Source being the General Fund.

Vice President Kyra Wallace supported the Motion.

A Roll Call Vote was taken.

Motion passed 7 – 0.

2022-23-24 Landscaping Maintenance (Lawncare)

Motion by Vice President Kyra Wallace to approve the 2022-23-24 Landscaping Maintenance (Lawncare) in the amount of \$387,129.00 with the Funding Source being the General Fund (Facilities Dept).

Secretary Patty Poole-Gray supported the Motion.

There was discussion about volunteer groups wanting to do projects at our buildings and how that would work with the Contract for services.

Superintendent Carter recommended Administration discuss this matter, take it to the Facilities Committee and then come back to the Board with a plan.

Motion passed 7 – 0.

2022-23-24 Landscaping Maintenance (Landscape)

Motion by Vice President Kyra Wallace to approve the 2022-23-24 Landscaping Maintenance (Landscape) in the amount of \$203,042.00 with the Funding Source being the General Fund (Facilities Dept).

Treasurer Charlie Fulbright supported the Motion.

Motion passed 7 – 0.

2022-23-24 Landscaping Maintenance (Athletic Field Maintenance)

Motion by Treasurer Charlie Fulbright to approve the 2022-23-24 Landscaping Maintenance (Athletic Field Maintenance) in the amount of \$150,885.000 with the Funding Source being the General Fund (Facilities Dept).

Vice President Kyra Wallace supported the Motion.

Motion passed 7 – 0.

Fremont Gym Floor Replacement

Motion by Treasurer Charlie Fulbright to approve the Fremont Gym Floor Replacement in the amount of \$76,827.00 with the Funding Source being the Sinking Fund.

Trustee Nathan Grajek supported the Motion.

Motion passed 7 – 0.

SUPERINTENDENT COMMENTS

Superintendent Kim Carter shared the following comments:

- The Hiring Learning Commission approved BCCHS as an accredited site for KCC. This recognition means our students can complete 50% or more of the program right on-site. We have been working to remove barriers and transportation has been a barrier for some students. Superintendent Carter congratulated the BCPS Team who worked on this accomplishment.
- Fremont is well on their way to the next step to becoming a Baccalaureate approved program. Last week they had an on-site visit and it went very well.
- Grace Health and CIS are proud to present a free Community closet event. It will be on Thursday, April 28th from 2-6pm at WK Prep High School. The idea for this event started with our students and they are volunteering to provide resources, etc. for the Community. There will be free food, clothing, party supplies and resources from other local Community Partners. Weather permitting, this event will be held outside, but if the weather is not ideal, it will be in the gym. For more information, please visit our Facebook page or website.
- Valley View 4th Graders started a Recycling Program that is featured in the Battle Creek Enquirer.
- Great Things are Happening at BCPS and she appreciates all the good work going on.

BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS

Vice President Kyra Wallace shared the news about an event this Wednesday, April 27th at the Burma Center. There will be a Multi-Cultural Dinner from 6-8 pm and the target audience is High School students. This is an opportunity for them to come together and talk and learn about different cultures, including the food of different cultures.

Secretary Patty Poole-Gray shared there will be a Cinco De Mayo Celebration on Saturday, May 7th beginning at 3pm by The Record Box.

Treasurer Charlie Fulbright announced this Wednesday, April 27th at 4:15pm there will be a Playground Dedication at Post-Franklin Elementary. Superintendent Carter clarified we learned late this afternoon that this event has been moved to Thursday, May 5th at 4:15pm.

Trustee Art McClenney talked about upcoming Graduation and noted that some graduates will be going into the work force. He shared the news about a big hiring process for the Calhoun County Sheriff Department. There will jobs working inside the jail and other jobs as well. He encouraged graduates who are not going to college to look into this situation because the jobs are available and at a good pay.

President Catherine LaValley shared the news this Wednesday, April 27th is the Virtual MASB Awards Ceremony. The Virtual Awards Ceremony will be to honor Board Members who have completed a lot of MASB learning. Board Members who received a letter that they were being honored will receive a pin and document for achieving this Award.

President LaValley added that it was nice to meet Altamiece Cooper. She thanked Altamiece for her work at BCCHS. She added the Board is always happy to hear from the Public. She hoped everyone enjoys Spring Sports, adding our athletes are working hard and we are proud of them.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 6:16pm.

Submitted by
Patti Worden

Minutes Approved: May 23, 2022


Patty Poole-Gray
Board Secretary