

BATTLE CREEK PUBLIC SCHOOLS BOARD OF EDUCATION

Work Session

December 6, 2021

Board Room at the Administration Building, 3 West Van Buren Street, Battle Creek, MI

5:30 p.m.

PRESENT – BOARD OF EDUCATION

Catherine LaValley

Kyra Wallace

Charlie Fulbright

Art McClenney

Nathan Grajek

Absent

Patty Poole-Gray

Jacqueline Slaby

Present – Administration

Kim Carter – Superintendent

Mitch Fowler – Assistant Superintendent, Curriculum, Instruction & Assessment

Dr. Chandra Youngblood – Director, Elementary Education

Dr. Anita Harvey, Director, District Transformation

Monique Cheeks – Director, Student Services

Rhonda Potts - Executive Director

Pat McCann – Chief Executive Officer, Human Resources

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

Absent – Administration

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

Nathan Hunt – Communications Manager

Jeff English – Executive Director

MINUTES

The meeting was called to order by President LaValley at 5:31pm. Catherine LaValley, Kyra Wallace, Charlie Fulbright, Art McClenney and Nathan Grajek were present.

The Board observed a moment of silence for Oxford School District.

President LaValley read the BCPS Mission Statement.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

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

Treasurer Charlie Fulbright supported the Motion.

Motion passed 5 – 0.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

None.

REPORTS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

Celebration of BCPS Holiday Card Artist – Sierra Baldwin, BCCHS Senior

Superintendent Kim Carter noted that it was with great pleasure from the Board and Administration that she offered heartfelt appreciation to Sierra Baldwin, a Senior at BCCHS, and the Artist whose drawing was selected for the BCPS Holiday Card.

Sierra Baldwin participated virtually.

Superintendent Carter asked that she tell us about herself, share the inspiration behind her drawing and tell us what she plans to do after Graduation.

Sierra shared the following:

- She is a Senior at BCCHS.
- The inspiration behind her card was all the different trees, which she finds as something really special about Michigan. In the Fall, there are all the beautiful colors and then we have Christmas Trees in the Winter. She decided to focus on Christmas Trees for her drawing.
- Sierra plans to attend college at North Carolina Ag & Tech and pursue an Aerospace Engineering Degree.

Superintendent Carter also extended a special Thank You to Mrs. Erin Romel who continues to be a champion for children and is creating Artists across our District. Ms. Romel is a Bearcat Hero who shows up and shows out for kids every day.

President Catherine LaValley congratulated Sierra on her scholarship to play baseball and wished her the best. The beautiful design of our annual Christmas card makes it something she will send out with pride and pleasure.

2021-2022 General Fund Budget Amendment Review

Rhonda Potts discussed the 2021-2022 General Fund Budget Amendment Review.

Rhonda noted the General Fund Budget was adjusted with the information they have received to date and results in a 17.09% Fund Balance. She added they will continue to make changes to the budget as ESSER Funds are made available.

The Board will vote on this item at the Regular Meeting on December 13, 2021.

Bond Consultant Agreement – C2AE (Architect Agreement)

Superintendent Kim Carter and Rhonda Potts discussed the Bond Consultant Agreement with C2AE for Architectural Services in the amount of \$41,600.00 (Planning and Campaign Support) and \$2,676,733.00 (Bond Project Implementation) with the Funding Source being the 2022 School Improvement Bonds.

Bond Consultant Agreement – Elite Companies (Construction Manager Agreement)

Superintendent Kim Carter and Rhonda Potts discussed the Bond Consultant Agreement with Elite Companies for Construction Manager Services in the amount of \$2,827,632.00 with the Funding Source being the 2022 School Improvement Bonds.

President Catherine LaValley discussed Board Policy 4770. She reported that, as a result of questions received from Trustee Jacqueline Slaby, this Board Policy was reviewed by Thrun's Office and their findings confirmed the process followed by Administration was in accordance with Board Policy.

PUBLIC COMMENT

None.

NEW BUSINESS

Bond Consultant Agreement – C2AE (Architect Agreement)

Motion by Vice President Kyra Wallace to approve the Bond Consultant Agreement with C2AE for Architectural Services in the amount of \$41,600.00 (Planning and Campaign Support) and \$2,676,733.00 (Bond Project Implementation) with the Funding Source being the 2022 School Improvement Bonds.

Treasurer Charlie Fulbright supported the Motion.

A Roll Call Vote was taken.

Motion passed 5 – 0.

Bond Consultant Agreement – Elite Companies (Bond Construction Agreement)

Motion by Vice President Kyra Wallace to approve the Bond Consultant Agreement with Elite Companies for Construction Manager Services in the amount of \$2,827,632.00 with the Funding Source being the 2022 School Improvement Bonds.

Treasurer Charlie Fulbright supported the Motion.

There was discussion about the First Addendum to the AIA Agreement.

A Roll Call Vote was taken.

Motion passed 5 – 0.

SUPERINTENDENT COMMENTS

Superintendent Kim Carter offered congratulations to Sierra Baldwin for the beautiful BCPS Holiday Card.

Superintendent Carter extended her appreciation to BCPS Staff, at every level, who show up and show out every day for the kids that we serve.

BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS

Treasurer Charlie Fulbright commented, on behalf of Dr. Anita Harvey, “Great Things Are Happening in Battle Creek Public Schools”.

President Catherine LaValley shared the following:

- She looks forward to attending the Adult Education Graduation tomorrow evening at 6:00pm at Miller Stone. Masks are required.
- She will be attending the BCCHS Career Academies Quarterly Council Meeting on Wednesday, December 15th.

The Facilities Task Force met on November 23rd. Trustee Slaby, Trustee Poole-Gray and herself serve on this Committee. President LaValley reported that Superintendent Kim Carter developed a Property Interest Report Spreadsheet which is a great tool for organizing the various BCPS Properties and includes details of our intentions for each one, specifically:

- The Task Force has given permission for Superintendent Carter to enter into negotiations of a Sales Proposal for Southwestern Middle School.
- Washington received 3 offers and the Committee needs further information on 2 of them.

- The Committee discussed the need to create solid and clear objective criteria for entertaining offers. Two of the criteria will be that all property is being sold “As Is” and the District will not accept less than the appraised value.
- A Proposal was received for Wilson Elementary, which is leased to New Level Sports. The District needs to get this property appraised because we have an offer.
- The first Bond Steering Committee Meeting is scheduled for Thursday, December 16th from 3:00-4:30pm. She will represent the Board and will keep the Board Members informed about this process.

The Bond Steering Committee will also include:

- ❖ 2 Students from NWMS
- ❖ 2 Students from SMS
- ❖ Administrative Staff – Superintendent Kim Carter, Rhonda Potts, Assistant Superintendent Mitch Fowler and Josh Bowman
- ❖ 1 Parent from NWMS
- ❖ 1 Parent from SMS
- ❖ 2 Teachers from NWMS
- ❖ 2 Teachers from SMS

She was interviewed by Maureen from Blue Skier and it went well. Maureen was impressed with the historical aspect of our buildings and commented the architecture was pretty spectacular.

ADJOURNMENT

President LaValley adjourned the meeting at 6:05pm.

Submitted by
Patti Worden

Patty Poole-Gray
Board Secretary