

BATTLE CREEK PUBLIC SCHOOLS BOARD OF EDUCATION

Work Session

July 12, 2021

Conference Room at the Miller Stone Building, 77 Capital Avenue NE, Battle Creek, MI

5:30 p.m.

PRESENT – BOARD OF EDUCATION

Catherine LaValley

Kyra Wallace

Charlie Fulbright

Jacqueline Slaby

Art McClenney

Nathan Grajek

Absent

Patty Poole-Gray

Present – Administration

Kim Carter – Superintendent

Dr. Deborah Nuzzi – Director, Secondary Education

Dr. Anita Harvey, Director, District Transformation

Monique Cheeks – Director, Student Services

Mitch Fowler – Director, School Data Systems & Innovations

Rhonda Potts - Executive Director

Pat McCann – Chief Executive Officer, Human Resources

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

Absent – Administration

Dr. Chandra Youngblood – Director, Elementary Education

Nathan Hunt – Communications Manager

Pat McCann – Chief Executive Officer, Human Resources

Jeff English – Executive Director

MINUTES

The meeting was called to order by President LaValley at 5:32p.m. Catherine LaValley, Kyra Wallace, Charlie Fulbright, Jacqueline Slaby, Art McClenney and Nathan Grajek were present.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Motion by Treasurer Charlie Fulbright to change the Funding Source for Item B under IV Reports & Recommendations from the General Fund to ESSER Funds.

Vice President Kyra Wallace supported the Motion.

Motion passed 6 – 0.

Motion by Treasurer Charlie Fulbright to approve the Agenda with said change in the Funding Source for Item B.

Trustee Jacqueline Slaby supported the Motion.

Motion passed 6 – 0.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Lorin Granger
234 East Hill Drive
Battle Creek 49014
269-425-1620

Lorin discussed the Athletic Trainer position, noting the position is critical to athletics and athletics are critical to educational success.

He discussed his disappointment in the majority of the funding for this position having to come from fund raising. He is concerned with the sustainability of the position when it has to be paid for from fund raising.

It was his position that BCPS should fully invest in this position. He commented Brooke has been working for free all Summer. He pledged the Bearcat Summer Golf Outing funds to pay for this position.

REPORTS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

Student Device Monitoring Software

Mitch Fowler discussed the Student Device Monitoring Software. The cost is \$14,125.00 with the funding source being the General Fund.

It was noted this is a one-year contract and the effectiveness will have to be evaluated.

The Board will vote on this item at the Regular Meeting on July 26, 2021.

Zoom License Renewal

Mitch Fowler discussed the Zoom License Renewal. The cost is \$23,200.00 with the funding source being the ESSER Funds.

This is a one-year renewal.

The Board will vote on this item at the Regular Meeting on July 26, 2021.

Facility Assessment

Rhonda Potts discussed the Facility Assessment. The cost is \$26,425.00 with the funding source being ESSER Funds.

The Board will vote on this item at the Regular Meeting on July 26, 2021.

Bronson Athletic Trainer

Charles Seils discussed the Bronson Athletic Trainer. The cost is \$28,000.00 with the funding source being WKKF Athletics (\$10,000.00) and General Fund Athletics (\$18,000.00).

This would be a yearly contract.

The Board indicated they would like to receive more information about athletic funding.

The Board will vote on this item at the Regular Meeting on July 26, 2021.

K-5 iReady Renewal

Wes Seeley discussed the K-5 iReady Renewal. The total cost is \$89,175.00 with the funding source being ESSER Funds.

The Board will vote on this item at the Regular Meeting on July 26, 2021.

HMH 6-12 Intervention Renewal

Wes Seeley discussed the HMH 6-12 Intervention Renewal. The cost is \$108,585.25 with the funding source being ESSER Funds.

The Board will vote on this item at the Regular Meeting on July 26, 2021.

K-5 LETRS Training

Dr. Deborah Nuzzi discussed the K-5 LETRS Training. The cost is \$78,229.00 with the funding source being ESSER Funds.

The Board will vote on this item at the Regular Meeting on July 26, 2021.

Reading Apprenticeship Training 6-12

Christian Manley discussed the Reading Apprenticeship Training 6-12. The cost is \$156,000.00 with the funding source being ESSER Funds.

The Board will vote on this item at the Regular Meeting on July 26, 2021.

Truth & Titus Collective Contract Renewal

Christian Manley discussed the Truth & Titus Collective Contract Renewal. The cost is \$45,000.00 with the funding source being the WKKF Grant.

The Board will vote on this item at the Regular Meeting on July 26, 2021.

The Equity Collaborative (For Opening Day)

Christian Manley discussed The Equity Collaborative. The cost is \$25,000.00 with the funding source being the WKKF Grant.

The Board will vote on this item at the Regular Meeting on July 26, 2021.

Kozai Consulting Partnership

Dr. Deborah Nuzzi discussed the Kozai Consulting Partnership. The cost is not to exceed \$50,000.00 with the funding source being ESSER Funds.

The Board will vote on this item at the Regular Meeting on July 26, 2021.

Post-Franklin Playgrounds

Rhonda Potts discussed the Post-Franklin Playgrounds. The cost is \$11,000.00 plus cement for the GSRP Playground and \$16,756.36 plus cement for the Kindergarten Playground. The funding sources are the GSRP Grant (\$14,000.00) for the GSRP Playground and the BCCF Grant (\$26,000.00) for the Kindergarten Playground.

Funds must be used by September 30, 2021.

Tentative Letter of Agreement Contract Extension for
Battle Creek Public Schools and the Battle Creek Educational Support Personnel Association
Superintendent Kim Carter discussed the Tentative Letter of Agreement Contract Extension.

Superintendent Carter shared the Administrative Team is working with paraprofessionals and secretaries regarding their Letter of Agreement Contract and we hope to bring that Letter of Agreement to the Board for the July 26th meeting.

DISCUSSION

Board Evaluation

President Catherine LaValley discussed the Board Evaluation.

She mentioned bringing in an MASB Facilitator or an individual that Superintendent Carter knows who acts as a Facilitator.

President LaValley mentioned having a Board Retreat a couple years ago to discuss Board strengths and opportunities to focus on as a group.

There was Board Member interest in having Superintendent Carter share more information on the Facilitator she knows. Superintendent Carter indicated she will share information in Board Notes when she has more details.

The Board will revisit this item when there is more information available.

Revisiting District Goals was mentioned as an opportunity.

August Meeting Structure

Superintendent Kim Carter discussed the August Meeting Structure.

She reported the Board Room will be ready in August and inquired if the Board was comfortable moving back to the Board Room in August.

It was noted that Zoom would continue in the Board Room.

Superintendent Carter advised that, effective July 22nd, all social distancing mask requirements are eliminated and masks then become a personal choice. We would encourage masks for those individuals who have not been vaccinated.

There was discussion about seating not being 6 feet apart in the Board Room and concern about the new Delta Strain, noting there have been a couple of cases in Calhoun County.

Superintendent Carter mentioned she was bringing this before the Board because with Board Meetings currently being held at Miller Stone, the room is not available for use to the community. The set up for the Board Meetings is quite extensive and not easy to take down and put up numerous times. There will also be some prep work to do in the Board Room to accommodate for Zoom.

The Board will discuss this matter again at the Regular Meeting on July 26, 2021.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

None.

NEW BUSINESS

2021-2022 Communities In Schools (CIS) Contract

Motion by Vice President Kyra Wallace to approve the 2021-2022 Communities in Schools (CIS) Contract in the amount of \$654,644.00 with the funding source being a split between the WKKF Grant and Title I Funds.

Treasurer Charlie Fulbright supported the Motion.

Motion passed 6 – 0.

Post-Franklin Playgrounds

Motion by Treasurer Charlie Fulbright to approve the Post-Franklin Playgrounds in the amount of up to \$14,000.00 for the GSRP Playground and up to \$26,000.00 for the Kindergarten Playground. The funding sources are the GSRP Grant for the GSRP Playground and the BCCF Grant for the Kindergarten Playground.

Vice President Kyra Wallace supported the Motion.

Motion passed 5 – 0.

Tentative Letter of Agreement Contract Extension for

Battle Creek Public Schools and the Battle Creek Educational Support Personnel Association

Motion by Vice President Kyra Wallace to approve the Letter of Agreement Contract Extension.

Treasurer Charlie Fulbright supported the Motion.

Motion passed 6 – 0.

SUPERINTENDENT COMMENTS

Superintendent Kim Carter reported the 2021-2022 School Year Calendar has been set. She wanted to share for the community that the First Day of school will be August 25th and it will be a half day. She also wanted to let the community know that Spring Break will be the last week of March 2022 and it does not align with Good Friday.

Calendars will be mailed to families and will also be available on our website as soon as we have all the details designed.

BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS

Trustee Art McClenney mentioned the Board missed an opportunity to attend the Claude Evans Park Splash Pad event. He attended this event after someone told him about it last minute.

Trustee Jacqueline Slaby commented that although they did not personally attend the event, Vice President Kyra Wallace and herself were donors for this event so there was Board financial support.

ADJOURNMENT

President LaValley adjourned the meeting at 7:00pm.

Submitted by
Patti Worden

Patty Poole-Gray
Board Secretary