

BATTLE CREEK PUBLIC SCHOOLS BOARD OF EDUCATION

Regular Meeting

March 23, 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

Charlie Fulbright

Art McClenney

Absent

Patty Poole-Gray

Jacqueline Slaby

Nathan Grajek

Present – Administration

Kim Carter – Superintendent

Mitch Fowler – Assistant Superintendent of Curriculum, Instruction and Assessment

Rhonda Potts - Executive Director

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

Absent

Jeff English – Senior Executive Director of Business Operations

Dr. Chandra Youngblood – Director, Elementary Education

MINUTES

The meeting was called to order by President LaValley at 5:32pm. Catherine LaValley, Kyra Wallace, Charlie Fulbright and Art McClenney were present.

President LaValley read aloud our 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 4 – 0.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

None.

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 Special Meeting on February 5, 2022, Work Session on February 14, 2022, Regular Meeting on February 28, 2022 and Closed Session on February 28, 2022
- C. Bills for the Month of February 2022
- D. Personnel Changes and Recognition of Retirees
- E. Membership Report
- F. Finance Report

Treasurer Charlie Fulbright supported the Motion.

Motion passed 4 – 0.

REPORTS & RECOMMENDATIONS

Bond Update

Dr. Anita Harvey introduced the Consultants we are working with regarding the Bond projects.

Eduardo Blanc from TMP reviewed the Schematic Design presentation and answered questions from the Board. Eduardo reported we have completed the Schematic Design phase of the projects and will move into the Technical Design next and then on to the Construction phase.

Ryan Long from Elite discussed the Cost Estimates for the Bond projects at NWMS and SMS and answered questions from the Board.

Tom McKercher from C2AE also answered questions from the Board.

President Catherine LaValley noted it is exciting that the cost estimates come within the 2% of our budget, although the Board is aware the costs could rise due to current economic factors.

Superintendent Kim Carter thanked the Consultants for their continued collaboration, noting it is great news we are on track and she is excited about the work.

Policy 3211 – Post-Issuance Tax Compliance – 2nd Reading

Monique Cheeks discussed the Post-Issuance Tax Compliance Policy and provided a 2nd Reading of Policy 3211.

Policy 3211 – Post-Issuance Disclosure Compliance – 2nd Reading

Monique Cheeks discussed the Post-Issuance Disclosure Compliance Policy and provided a 2nd Reading of Policy 3212.

Athletic Update

Charles Seils was unable to attend tonight due to a last minute schedule change.

Assistant Superintendent Mitch Fowler presented the Athletic Update in Charles' absence.

President Catherine LaValley noted a need to determine how to support an Athletic Trainer as a result of the Board's interest in making a commitment to have an Athletic Trainer for all sports 6th Grade through Senior High. Mitch noted this was a timely reminder as we are currently working on the first round of budgets.

President LaValley commented the athlete turnout for the Spring Season is impressive. She wished all Spring sport athletes good luck.

Summer Books for Middle School and High School

Wes Seeley discussed the Summer Books for Middle School and High School in the amount of \$77,100.00 using Title I Funds.

It was noted that the High School includes both BCCHS and WK Prep.

Wes reported we are currently going out for an RFP in this matter and will bring it to the Board for approval after the RFP process.

The Board will vote on the Middle School Summer Books at the Work Session on April 11, 2022.

The High School Summer Books will be brought to the Board for approval once the RFP process been completed.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

None.

NEW BUSINESS

Appointment of Acting Board Secretary

President Catherine LaValley discussed the need to appoint an Acting Board Secretary to sign the Juul Litigation Resolution.

Motion by Vice President Kyra Wallace to appoint Treasurer Charlie Fulbright as Acting Board Secretary to sign the Juul Litigation Resolution.

Trustee Art McClenney supported the Motion.

Motion passed 4 – 0.

Juul Litigation Resolution & Agreement

Motion by Vice President Kyra Wallace to approve the Juul Litigation Resolution & Agreement.

Trustee Art McClenney supported the Motion.

A Roll Call Vote was taken.

Motion passed 4 – 0.

2022-2023 Calhoun ISD General Fund Budget

Motion by Vice President Kyra Wallace to approve the 2022-2023 Calhoun ISD General Fund Budget.

Trustee Art McClenney supported the Motion.

Patti Worden, Executive Assistant to the Superintendent and Board of Education, read the Resolution aloud.

A Roll Call Vote was taken.

Motion passed 4 – 0.

Policy 3211 – Post-Issuance Tax Compliance

Motion by Vice President Kyra Wallace to approve Policy 3211 Post-Issuance Tax Compliance as presented.

Treasurer Charlie Fulbright supported the Motion.

Motion passed 4 – 0.

Policy 3212 – Post-Issuance Disclosure Compliance

Motion by Vice President Kyra Wallace to approve Policy 3212 Post-Issuance Disclosure Compliance as presented.

Treasurer Charlie Fulbright supported the Motion.

Motion passed 4 – 0.

E-Rate Network Electronics Upgrade

Motion by Vice President Kyra Wallace to approve the E-Rate Network Electronics Upgrade in the amount of \$240,685.47 with \$189,358.06 being covered by E-Rate and \$51,327.41 with the Funding Source being the District's General Fund.

Treasurer Charlie Fulbright supported the Motion.

Motion passed 4 – 0.

Bookworm Vending Machines

Motion by Vice President Kyra Wallace to approve the Bookworm Vending Machines in the amount of \$44,008.00 with the Funding Source being Building Title I Funds.

Treasurer Charlie Fulbright supported the Motion.

Motion passed 4 – 0.

SUPERINTENDENT COMMENTS

Superintendent Kim Carter shared the following comments:

- First and foremost she thanked the BCPS Staff for their continued hard work and dedication. She hoped everyone takes time to relax and engage in self-care over Spring Break.
- She thanked the twenty-five (25) National Honor Society (NHS) Students who took time to go over to Post-Franklin Elementary and share the joy of reading. These students were models for our young readers as to what it means to be reader and to celebrate March being Reading Month.
- She encouraged families to check out the BCPS Website and Facebook page regarding a Spring Break Camp to be hosted by the Southwest Michigan Urban League. The Camp will be open to Kindergarten thru 8th Grade and will run from 8:30am to 3:30pm on Monday, March 28th thru Friday, April 1st. Registration is \$50 per student and includes Breakfast and Lunch.
- She thanked the BCPS Board Trustees for always serving BCPS.

BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS

Trustee Art McClenney congratulated the students inducted into the NHS and he enjoyed attending the ceremony. He had a good conversation with Cameron Daniels who is a very impressive young man.

Vice President Kyra Wallace added to what Superintendent Kim Carter shared about the Southwest Michigan Urban League Spring Break Camp. She indicated the SWMUL was privileged to receive a donation to provide for four (4) students to be sponsored for the Spring Break Camp. She indicated that any parent who may be interested in sending their child and the cost is prohibitive can contact the SWMUL Office and have a discussion with the staff about the donated dollars.

President Catherine LaValley shared the following:

- There is an important City of Battle Creek Community opportunity regarding an Equity Audit the City is working with a consulting firm to conduct. There will be two (2) meetings tomorrow at the Kool Family Community Center. The City is conducting the Equity Audit to make sure their work force is more representative of the Community. The first meeting is from 11:00am to 1:00pm and the second meeting is from 6:00 to 8:00pm. There will be an American Sign Language (ASL) Interpreter for the evening meeting.

There were Virtual Meetings previously held with Burmese and Spanish interpretation.

She asked that individuals share information about the meetings tomorrow with their Facebook friends.

- She attended the BCCHS NHS Induction of new members. There were twenty-seven (27) New Members and twenty (20) New Scholars at the Ceremony. She said it was very special and there was a good turnout of parents and families.
- On March 21st she attended the Battle Creek Rotary Club Meeting. Rose Miller from BCCHS was honored and shared her present activities and future plans to become a Child Social Worker.
- She attended the Virtual Arts Community Meeting, led by Dr. Anita Harvey, for the NWMS Bond Project on March 21st. Community Partners were in attendance and will assist in the designing of what the Arts Program for NWMS will be.

Superintendent Kim Carter read a Thank You Card received from Mrs. Barney for the flowers sent for Bruce Barney's memorial service.

President Catherine LaValley wished everyone a restful and safe Spring Break.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 6:33pm.

Submitted by
Patti Worden

Minutes Approved: April 25, 2022


Patty Poole-Gray
Board Secretary