

BATTLE CREEK PUBLIC SCHOOLS BOARD OF EDUCATION
Regular Meeting
December 15, 2014
7pm
Board Room – School Administration Building

PRESENT - BOARD OF EDUCATION

William Burton
Susan Buckley
Todd Stagner
Art McClenney
Kellie Thomas
Karen Evans

ABSENT-BOARD OF EDUCATION

Scott Cubberly

Present – Administration

Dr. Linda Hicks – Superintendent

Stephen Sestina – Director of Human Resources

Chad Osborn – Technology Supervisor

Kim Parker-DeVauld – Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum, Instruction and Assessment

Monique Wells – Student Services Director

Chandra Youngblood – Early Childhood Education Coordinator

Marilyn Wieschowski – Director of Financial Services

MINUTES

The meeting was called to order by President Burton at 7:00p.m. All board members were present with the exception of Scott Cubberly. Approximately thirteen citizens were in attendance including school personnel.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

The amended agenda was unanimously approved.

Moved by Susan Buckley and supported by Todd Stagner to approve agenda.

Motion approved 7 – 0

Christmas Card Presentation

BCPS Art teacher Kristin Moore recognized Mackenzie Nelson for the creativity she expressed when creating the districts Christmas Card for this year. William Burton said “In all my years on the school board, this is the nicest, most creative card I have seen.”

Human Resources Committee

Board member Kelli Thomas stated that they are still reviewing the Board Policies. A few of them need to be tweaked and she stressed that some of the policies are out of date.

Priority Schools Report

Kim Parker-DeVauld gave a presentation on the progress of our Priority Schools (VN, FT, VV, DU, AJ) The following information for the schools was reported:

- Thanks were given to the Principals of Fremont, Valley View, Dudley and Verona for all the hard work they have been putting in to this
- AJK, FT & VV are in their planning year and have been working tirelessly on plans. Those plans were submitted to the state last month.
- Projected scores for MAP, if no intervention is given show failing scores in Math and Reading.
- Took Best Practice from AJK & DU for Points of Change.
- An additional 30 minutes of reading is given to those students needing to catch up.
- Math Workshop at AJK offers individualized help for those in need.
- A balanced framework in Literacy for keeping track of individual students.
- Team walk-throughs to promote improvement and collect data.
- PBIS was started to raise school climate, noting that Dudley is far ahead of the district in this.
- Fremont is piloting the Achieve 3000 Tier 2 program to help provide additional practice from home, library and work.
- Winter MAP will take place Jan. 12 – 23.

Kim is confident that all these changes can help us move forward.

Schools will present their information in February and then the Board will receive the report in March.

Questions & Comments:

Susan Buckley: Are students given homework to reinforce school work at home?

Kim: Still hopeful for a new district wide homework policy to be implemented.

Todd Stagner: How long is the MAP?

Kim: Testing window is 2 weeks with each student testing for math and reading.

Todd Stagner: How many days are we not instructing due to test taking?

Karen Evans: “I hope we are not going overboard on assessments.”

“Is there a good balance between test taking and instruction?”

Todd Stagner requested an Assessment calendar specifically related to the number of days students are being tested.

Dr. Linda Hicks stated that the district is being proactive. The MEAP comes too late in the year, while the MAP lets us do something proactively to help. It is a tool used to help students in the area where help is needed.

Kim Parker-DeVauld : “ Failure is not an Option” for BCPS. The MAP serves as a “temperature check” for progress....is it working? It allows us to have a laser like focus on all students.

Karen Evans: Stated that she appreciates the district getting rid of the Journeys Assessments due to the MAP being the same type of test.

CONSENT AGENDA

- Minutes of the Special, Regular meetings of November 18, 2014
- Bills for the month of November 2014
- Personnel Changes and Recognition of Retirees
- Student Reinstatement Committee Recommendation

Moved by Karen Evans, supported by Art McClenney, to approve the consent agenda.

Motion approved 7 – 0

PUBLIC COMMENT

No public comments

New Business

- A.** Consideration to improve Special Education Parent Advisory Committee (PAC) Representative. Patty Gibson to represent the BCPS Special Education Committee.

Moved by Susan Buckley, Supported by Todd Stagner.

Motion approved 7 - 0

- B. Consideration to Reappoint Kathy Baker as the Willard Library Board Member to another 3 year term.

Moved by Todd Stagner, Supported by Kellie Thomas.

Motion approved 7 – 0

- C. Consideration to Approve Posting of RFP for legal Services

Motion approved 7 - 0

- D. Discuss Board Organizational Meeting in January

SUPERINTENDENT COMMENTS

- Due to her sore throat, Dr. Hicks will wait until January to tell everyone about her trip to London.
- BCAMSC Parent Night Showcase was a huge success. We expected around 200/250 people and upwards of 350 actually attended.
- There will be no Holiday fruit this year due to a bad crop.
- On January 5th the document on the facilities study will be received and then the Board should meet to discuss the findings perhaps later in January.
- Thanks again to Susan and William for their many years of service to the BCPS District.

BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS

- Todd Stagner praised the BCAMSC for a fantastic parent night. Todd Stagner presented William Burton and Susan Buckley will pins for their service to the district.
- Art McClenney also enjoyed the BCAMSC parent and stated how nice it was to hear families talk about wanting to come back to BCPS. Art McClenney reminded everyone that some kids do not have meals during the winter break.
- Karen Evans called the Parent event a “great engaging opportunity”.
- Kellie Thomas gave congratulations to Susan Buckley and William Burton.
- Susan Buckley recommended that we all read the Detroit Free Press for their in depth articles on funding for schools. Susan Buckley spoke of the bonds and friendships that she formed in the 20 years that she served on the Board.
- William Burton said that it was a pleasure to work so close with everyone for all these years. Thank you for allowing me to be a member.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 8:15 p.m.