

**BATTLE CREEK BOARD OF EDUCATION  
REGULAR MEETING  
August 17, 2015  
6:00 p.m.  
Board Room, 3 West Van Buren**

**PRESENT - BOARD OF EDUCATION**

Todd Stagner  
Art McClenney  
Scott Cubberly  
Kellie Thomas  
Karen Evans  
Catherine LaValley  
Nathan Grajek

**Present – Administration**

Kim Parker-DeVauld – Interim Superintendent  
Chad Osborn – Interim Director of Facilities & Operations/Technology Director  
Marilyn Wieschowski – Executive Director of Financial Services  
Stephen Sestina – Executive Director of Human Resources  
Monique Wells – Director of Student Services  
Chandra Youngblood – ECE Coordinator

**MINUTES**

The meeting was called to order by President Stagner at 6:01 p.m. All board members were present. Approximately 17 citizens and staff were in attendance.

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

Scott Cubberly made the motion to approve the agenda as is. The motion was supported by Catherine LaValley.

**Motion approved 7-0**

**Consideration and Approval of the following Consent Agenda Items:**

Karen Evans made a motion to accept the Consent Agenda as presented. Motion was supported by Catherine LaValley.

**Motion passed 7 – 0**

**Public Comment**

**Barb Giallombardo** – Thanked board for selecting and approving Kim Parker-DeVauld as the interim superintendent.

## New Business

Kim Parker-DeVauld introduced the new administrators for BCPS:

- Sandra Windon – Principal of LaMora Park
- Melissa Remillard – Principal of Verona
- Deborah Linden – Principal of Fremont
- Wes Seeley – Coordinator of Grants and Federal Programs
- Caitlin Boline – District Instructional Coach

Catherine LaValley made a motion to accept the new administrators for BCPS.  
Kellie Thomas supported that motion.

**Motion passed 7 – 0**

## Certify Delegates and Alternate for MASB Assembly

Karen Evans nominated Art McClenney as a delegate. Art McClenney nominated Karen Evans as a delegate. Catherine LaValley volunteered to be the alternate.

Nathan Grajek made a motion to accept Karen Evans and Art McClenney as delegates and Catherine LaValley as an alternate for the MASB Assembly.

Motion supported by Kellie Thomas.

**Motion passed 7 – 0**

## Entry System for Ann J. Kellogg

Chad Osborn presented the proposal to add the key pod entry system to Ann J. Kellogg.

A question was asked if this was the only vendor and in the cost for in line with the other installations by this company.

Art McClenney made a motion to accept the proposal to approve the entry system for Ann J. Kellogg.  
Catherine LaValley supported that motion.

**Motion passed 7 – 0**

## Closed Session Pursuant to Discuss Collective Bargaining Strategy

Art McClenney made a motion to go into closed session at 6:17 p.m.  
Karen Evans supported that motion.

**Motion passed 7 – 0**

Regular meeting reconvened at 6:33 p.m.

## Superintendent Comments

Kim Parker-DeVauld –

Great things are happening in Battle Creek Public Schools and we are grateful to the community sponsors and organizations that help us to create opportunities for the students we serve. This summer BCPS provided over 400 students with academic intervention and expanded afternoon summer enrichment opportunities through a partnership with various organizations throughout the community. As a result of support from the community, the program culminated with two amazing end-of summer field trips. One hundred 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> graders were transported for a day of fun at Silver Beach in St. Joseph and a similar number of kindergarten through 2<sup>nd</sup> grade students were afforded the opportunity to meet and greet the animals at Binder Park zoo. These opportunities would not have been possible without the collaboration and support of partnerships with CSM group, United Way of the Battle Creek and Kalamazoo region, Binda Foundation, Chartwells, Dean Transportation, Hands On Battle Creek, Lakeview Ford, The Rotary Club of Battle Creek and the Battle Creek Community Foundation. It is with sincere appreciation that I publicly thank both the organizations and the BCPS individuals that made this day possible.

The Horizons Grant from KCC and the Kellogg Foundation ended on a great note! Through this partnership, families were provided with enrichment opportunities that they might not otherwise had. For the first big trip of the summer, 72 parents and students toured the University of Michigan and then attended the Detroit Zoo. For the culminating summer trip, 90 parents and students traveled to the Field Museum and Navy Pier in Chicago, where they enjoyed a speed boat excursion on Lake Michigan.

I would be remiss if I did not personally thank all of the Battle Creek staff that went above and beyond to ensure that students had access to all of these wonderful opportunities.

Finally we have to celebrate “Be the one in 1,000”. In partnership with the United Way and W.K. Kellogg Foundation, BCPS has been afforded the opportunity to expand the Early Grade Reading Achievement Program (EGRAP) to all elementary schools. This expansion allowed us to send four books this summer to all Kindergarten through 2<sup>nd</sup> grade BCPS students to promote summer reading! That’s over 3,550 books that will be in the hands of students by the end of the summer. In the words of Margaret Fuller, “Today a reader, tomorrow a leader.”

It is with sincere appreciation and gratitude that I thank all of the individuals that are working tirelessly to create exceptional opportunities and improved outcomes in Battle Creek Public Schools.

## Board Member Comments

**Art McClenney** – I just want to thank Kim for how quickly she pulled this team together. Congratulations. I would like to personally welcome everyone to the district and to remind the board that there is a meeting in Marshall on September 2. I do plan on attending but you might want to as well.

**Karen Evans** – First of all, I would like everyone to know that the best graduating class of Battle Creek Central had its 40<sup>th</sup> class reunion. We rocked it! We had a great time. We had over 100 people at Griffin on Friday night and over 70 people at H2O of Saturday night. Last week end, I went to Petoskey and Harbor Springs for MASB Summer School. I took a class on Superintendent, not Superintendent Evaluations, but something else. They talked about how we need to set board goals and superintendent goals to align with the goals we have for the district.

The board goals would be like “what kind of work can the board do within our realm to help support these goals and then set up goals for the superintendent so she know what we expect. We also talked about Superintendent Evaluations. Because the state hasn’t mandated or approved the law, we can look at MASB model. I also set in on Anatomy of a School Budget.

**Kellie Thomas** – As many of you have heard, marching band season is upon us, and that also means football. Battle Creek Central’s first home game is August 28, almost two full weeks before school starts. Let’s get out there and pack the stands! The marching band just had a week of bear camp. We were at home again this year. The kids look and sound amazing. We ended the week with a really good potluck.

**Catherine LaValley** – I attended the Neighborhood Commission #5 last Monday evening. Alvin White, III, won the poster contest last May. His drawing, entitled Urbandale, was put on seven razor banners to be displayed throughout the NPC #5. The first day of school, one will be at LaMora Park and the other one will be at Urbandale School for up to one week. Alvin is going to be honored at an upcoming City Commission meeting for his work. These banners were supplied by a neighborhood grant that is funneled through Battle Creek City Commission. Each council member gets to decide what to do with the money. Alvin got to sign a banner, his poster on a t-shirt. I hope to find out and let you know when the City Commission meeting will be so that we can support him.

I participated in the most recent BC Vision College Career Readiness Workshop that we had last Thursday. I really did enjoy the input and the work that BC Vision continues to do toward the goal of the network strategies. I also took Kim up on her invitation to participate in the workshop known for Leading with Equity. I really find that my understanding is limited in what equity means. This afternoon was our first meeting and this was really comfortable with all the discussions led by the two leaders. It’s a valuable workshop that will do our staff some good. I am proud to get to know our team members and I thank Kim for the invite.

**Dr. Stagner** – I would like to thank Ms. Parker-DeVauld for the transition as we move forward in starting a new school year and the collaboration in receiving a lot of positive things. I heard a little bit about the speed boat trip. It sounded like it was a lot of fun. I talked to the teacher that took the kids to the lake. What a great time they had. Well behaved and a lot of fun.

One question for you Karen – with the board and district goals, should that follow the strategic plan.

*Karen Evans* – There was no specific order. They feed into the strategic plan. I know we have these district priorities and it’s mainly so Kim will know what we expect of her.

Meeting adjournment at 6:47 p.m.