

**BATTLE CREEK PUBLIC SCHOOLS BOARD OF EDUCATION**  
**Regular Meeting**  
**March 21, 2016**  
**Miller Stone Building, 77 Capital Avenue NE, Battle Creek, MI 49017**  
**Fifteen minutes after Special Meeting Ends**

**PRESENT - BOARD OF EDUCATION**

Todd Stagner  
Kellie Thomas  
Karen Evans  
Catherine LaValley  
Nathan Grajek  
Rose Miller  
Art McClenney

**Present – Administration**

Kim Parker-DeVauld – Interim Superintendent  
Chad Osborn – Director, Facilities & Operations, Technology Director  
Stephen Sestina – Executive Director, Human Resources  
Marilyn Wieschowski – Executive Director, Finance  
Chandra Youngblood – Coordinator of Early Childhood Education

**MINUTES**

The meeting was called to order by President Stagner at 6:23 p.m. All board members were present. Approximately 50 citizens and staff were in attendance.

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

Rose Miller made a motion to accept the agenda.  
The motion was supported by Nathan Grajek.

Karen asked for items G and H under new business to be removed and the new G will become Consideration to Approve 2015-2021 Strategic Plan.

**Motion passed 7 – 0**

**PUBLIC COMMENTS**

LaTisha Grisham –Parent complained regarding responses to her concerns.

Barbara Giallombardo – Called for a plan of action to secure a superintendent that is knowledgeable of the school district for the next school year.

**2<sup>ND</sup> READING OF BOARD POLICY 6000**

Stephen Sestina presented the revisions to Board Policy 6000 for the second time.

**1<sup>ST</sup> READING OF BOARD POLICY 1000**

Stephen Sestina presented the revisions to Board Policy 1000 for the first time. The Board asked that the following be corrected:

1152-1: It should say January instead of July

1320: Change “embers” – change to members

1370 H: Change “and” to at

1400-1: Change “there” to their

1400-2: Change “eavesdropping” to eavesdrop

1500: Change “polices” to policies

1900: Change “transction” to transaction

1950 d: Change “form” to from

1950-1: Change “transctions” to transactions

### **FINANCE AND PHYSICAL RESOURCES REPORT**

Karen Evans reported that the Finance and Physical Resources committee met and discussed the Kagan Professional Development and Tier III Interventionist Read 180 License contracts. Both of these will come from Title I funds. Also discussed was replacing the core switches in the BCPS servers. Two switches have to be upgraded and unfortunately have to come out of general funds. As a committee, we did support all three of these.

### **BOARD POLICY COMMITTEE REPORT**

Kellie Thomas reported that the committee has completed sections 1000, 3000, 6000, 8000, and 9000. We just finished section 1000, Board Policies and Regulations. We are waiting for the attorneys. We continue to go back and forth. We have returned all of the policies with revisions.

### **STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT COMMITTEE REPORT**

Catherine LaValley reported that the Student Achievement Committee met on March 7. We had reports on the Code of Conduct. All buildings have distributed to their staff and students. We had an update on the middle school transformation. A summary of the positives were received from that report. The data that is coming from the Read 180 Intervention classes at the middle schools are working really well. There was a suggestion to look at more of a program to facilitate math instruction as well.

### **STUDENT HEALTH ADVISORY COMMITTEE REPORT**

Catherine LaValley attended two of the student advisory health committee meetings. They are conducted three times a year. They were held February 29 and March 16. At the February 29<sup>th</sup> meeting, the health department was looking for a nurse practitioner for us. At the March 16 meeting, she has been hired but will not begin until June 20. That means that next year, our health centers will be opened five days a week. It is important to know that people from the State Department on health is going to make site visits to our Battle Creek Central Health Center on April 27. There was a concern that the Advisory Committee had regarding lack of AED's in our buildings. We have a few of them. They are maintained by our maintenance department, but it would be beneficial to take a look at getting more AED's in our District. Right now the price have not come down at all, but it would be beneficial to staff and students if this equipment could be in place for any emergencies. A lot of work has been done with our health centers. The seniors are invited to get shots and physicals before starting college for free.

Sixth graders listened to a presentation called, "Signs of Suicide." They learned about ACT. A = Acknowledge. When they are listening to a person who is depressed and possibly considering suicide to have a conversation with that person. C = Care. Let the person know they care very much about them. T = Tell an Adult. The training for our 6<sup>th</sup> graders at SMS was presented by our Social Worker from the Calhoun Health Department.

### **CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS**

Dr. Stagner asked for a motion to approve the following consent agenda items:

- Minutes from the Regular and Special meeting on February 8, 2016
- Minutes from the Board Workshop on February 29, 2016
- Bills for the Month of February
- Personnel Changes and Recognition of Retirees
- Student Reinstatement

Art McClenney made a motion to accept the Consent Agenda items as presented.  
Catherine LaValley supported that motion.

**Motion passed 7 – 0**

### **NEW BUSINESS**

#### **BCAMSC Field Trips**

Luke Perry presented four field trips for approval by the Board for the Math and Science Center.

1. Cedar Point Physics Day, May 20, 2016 – the students will take part in a real world experience applying physics principles, measurements of height and velocity and the physics of construction when used in the context of roller coasters and amusement rides.
2. Shedd's Aquarium, Navy Pier, Connie's Pizza on May 10, 2016 – the students will study ocean/marine biology and man's impact on animal species and environments.
3. VEX World Robotics Competition, April 20 – April 23, 2016 – The students will compete in the VEX Robotics World Championship competition.
4. Conrad Innovation Summit, April 20 – April 24, 2016 – The students will participate in the Conrad Challenge Summit, selected as summit diplomats to compete as finalists.

Nathan Grajek made a motion to approve the 2016 Battle Creek Area Math and Science Center field trips.

Karen Evans supported that motion.

**Motion passed 7 – 0**

#### **Kagan Professional Development**

Kim Parker-DeVauld asked the Board for consideration to approve the Kagan Professional Development contract. It is three days of training, for 150 teachers that will focus on high-engagement cooperative learning strategies.

Karen Evans made a motion to approve the Kagan Professional Development training as presented.

Rose Miller supported that motion.

**Motion passed 7 – 0**

**Tier III Interventionist Read 180 License**

Kim Parker-DeVauld asked the Board to for consideration approve the purchase of a license for intervention software for students who are struggling with reading. The license will be at the high school.

Karen Evans made a motion to approve the Tier III Interventionist Read 180 License. Kellie Thomas supported that motion.

Rose Miller asked how long the license was for.

Kim says that it is coming from the Title I Grant Funds used to provide support for at-risk students. It is a one-time license fee and a small renewal, but we will own the software and can put students into the program. We do not have to renew this license every year.

Rose Miller asked what the small renewal fee was.

Kim says that there is a licensing fee of less than \$10,000 per year. She is asking for approval today of \$44,000. BCPS will own the seats for students and then there is a yearly hosting fee.

**Motion passed 7 – 0**

**Resolution Declaring Support for Special Education Millage**

Kim Parker-DeVauld - We have been talking in the community about the funding for our special education programs. We understand that we are significantly reducing the ability to meet those needs across the county. We have been asked by the ISD to support consideration for going for a millage. A decision has not been made at this time, but we need to understand in the community, how many area school districts are in support of making that request to provide additional resources for our students. This millage is not to exceed 1 mil for ten years beginning in 2016.

Catherine LaValley made a motion to approve the resolution declaring support for the Special Education Millage for the CISD. Art McClenney supported that motion.

**Motion passed 7 – 0**

**USF Core Switch Upgrades**

Chad Osborn presented the quote from eGear USA to replace core switch. As background, the district has two core switches that run all of our servers in all of our buildings. One switch is between 9 and 10 years old (has lived its live span), and the second it about five years old. We need to replace the internal components of the switches. Currently the switches do not match. Replacing them will allow the switches to communicate. We have 15 switch stacks at the high school, this will allow us to make those switch stacks redundant between both switches. Currently they run on one, so if there is a failure to the switch, the entire high school goes down. Allowing them to run through both switches, when one goes down, the second will have the ability to continue lines of communication. The quote is in the amount of \$73, 933.66. We will use Category II – Universal District Funds. The District will pay 15% of that. The amount of this request \$11,089.90.

Karen Evans made a motion to approve the Core Switch Upgrades in the amount of \$11,089.90.

Rose Miller supported that motion.

**Motion passed 7 – 0**

### **Board Policy 8260**

Stephen Sestina asked that the Board approve Board Policy 8260, Anti-Bully, including Cyber-bullying, to be in line with State requirements.

Kellie Thomas made a motion to approve Board Policy 8260.

Art McClenney supported that motion.

**Motion passed 7 – 0**

### **2016 – 2021 Strategic Plan**

Karen Evans made a motion to approve the Strategic Plan as it was presented.

Rose Miller supported that motion.

**Motion passed 7 – 0**

### **SUPERINTENDENT COMMENTS**

Kim Parker-DeVauld **congratulated** students Allison Champlin, My'Chelle Cotton, Liliana Garza-Mancio on their artwork that is adjudicated at MSU and have been selected to be included in the top 100 pieces of elementary art in the State. The middle school students to be congratulated for their artwork being adjudicated at MSU and selected for the top 100 pieces are Jah'veaire Gues, Rebecca Mawi, and Krih Zing. All six of these students' art will be in an art exhibit in April at the College for Creative Studies in Detroit.

**Congratulations** to students Alaunna Mills, Adam Stagner, and Fnu Veronica for their effortless work in Art class creating, problem solving, and applying new techniques. Their art was entered into the MAEA Region 4 juried Art show and has been selected to compete at the State level in March, in Lansing.

**Congratulations** to the musicians that performed at the MSBOA State Level Solo & Ensemble Festival. All received superior and excellent ratings. These students are Cameron Barnett, Hannah Jiskra, Trent Sanchez, Sicily McLaughlin, Onalee Handlovits, Taryn Plegue, Azana Jones, Alluysen Smith, Brendan Knapper, Cora Westlake, and Colon Jankowski.

**Congratulations** to the Theatre Department at Battle Creek Central. Over the week-end they presented two productions: "Night, Mother and Jimmy the Antichrist." The following students are to be commended for their role in the success of these productions: Cleashae Crowder, Hailey Jamann, Blake Gipson, Reanna Beattie, Dakota Dean, Johnnie Marcellus, Austin Monarch, Lauren Hullum, Marlon Triebel, Zach Van Horn, Ariel Pleshe, Kat Jones, Serenity Jones, Colin Jankowski, Fred Jankowski, Devon Santora, Armani Poindexter, Nikolaus Beals, Olivia Lajoie, Devan Washington, Patrick Sprague, James Burns, Rachel Sidnam, Douglas Johnson, Beth Kuenzel, Hanna Swank, Phillip Martin, Owen Payne.

In the past month we have collected roughly 250 cases/jugs of water for Flint residence, introduced 615 secondary students to entrepreneurship, and exposed 1,695 elementary students to classical music.

LET'S GO BEARCATS!

Finally, the KCC Foundation is pleased to announce the establishment of the Sidney V. DeBoer Memorial Scholarship for a graduating BCCHS senior. Created in late 2015, this annual scholarship is dedicated to long-time KCC Science professor, Sid DeBoer, who passed away in 2014. This award is for \$1,000. Scholarship applications are due April 1.

### **BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS**

Art McClenney – We need to tell our story. Too often others tell what they want to about us. We are the pride of the state. That's what we say. That's who we are. Let's tell our story first. I also want to compliment Ms. Kim Parker-DeVauld for spearheading this strategic plan. Please keep in mind that it is about the students. The kids are excited about the things that are happening in the schools! Go bearcats.

Rose Miller – We talk about the pride of the community. We talk about the Strategic Plan. Part of that plan was to go out into the community. We can't be all that we can be without hearing the parents with issues coming from their heart. Those are the things that will make us live up to those six areas. I appreciate when those parents come. When you know to do better, then you do better. Yes, the strategic plan is for our kids. I love when parents come to us, yes even filled with anger, to let us know that they need help in this area. That's what we signed up for – to help in those areas and to support what the strategic plan is all about. I am appreciative that we've come to an agreement that our kids and our families are worth it.

Catherine LaValley – Let the work begin!

Meeting adjourned by Dr. Todd Stagner at 7:40 p.m.

Submitted by

*Gloria O. Wilkerson*