

**BATTLE CREEK BOARD OF EDUCATION
SPECIAL MEETING
October 15, 2012
5:30 p.m.
Board Room – School Administration Building**

PRESENT - BOARD OF EDUCATION

Karen Evans
William Burton
Susan Buckley
Todd Stagner
Steve Hoelscher
Art McClenney
Scott Cubberly

Present – Administration

Dr. Linda Hicks – Superintendent
Ruth Carr – Director of Student Services
Dr. Jeffrey Greene – Resource Development Coordinator
Deborah Gregory – Executive Director of Financial Services
Dianne Hatley – Personnel Manager
Tim Scott – Director of Facilities & Operations
Calvin Wade – Director of Human Resources

MINUTES

The meeting was called to order by President Evans at 5:32 p.m. All board members were present. Approximately 15 citizens and staff were in attendance.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

The agenda was unanimously approved as presented.

Motion approved 7 – 0

REPORTS

Construction Projects

Tom Beuchler, Jason Moore, and Ben Danielson with Schweitzer Inc., reported on the Math & Science Center (MSC) and Franklin Elementary projects. Mr. Beuchler thanked board members for the opportunity to work together and shared a photographic presentation of the progress at MSC. Mr. Danielson reported that the budget shows a surplus in contingency funds. The anticipated turnover date for the distribution center at MSC is December 18, 2012, and May 31, 2013 for the learning center. Board members requested that Bearcat colors be represented in the building.

Jason Moore applauded the working relationship with the BCPS staff, especially the building engineer at Franklin Elementary, Norm Russell. The Franklin project also has a surplus in the contingency fund. The school will be ready for a final inspection during Winter Break to be turned over in December.

Discussion: Springfield/Math & Science Center

Superintendent Hicks opened the floor for discussion regarding the current Math & Science Center (MSC) building. In a letter to Superintendent Hicks the Springfield City Council requested that BCPS “pay it forward” and donate the building to the City of Springfield. Board members were also invited to attend the Springfield City Council meeting where potential use of the building will be discussed. Following discussion board members requested that additional information be provided in order to make an informed decision. Information such as market value of the building, costs to upkeep the building, community input, and potential uses will be considered when making a recommendation. Board members agreed to refrain from attending Council meetings pending their own internal discussions. Board members expressed their confidence that the building usage recommendation will be in the best interest of BCPS students as the District has demonstrated in the past.

Student Expulsion Hearing Process

Superintendent Hicks presented the Student Disciplinary Hearing Process for discussion. Under the new process, long-term suspensions or expulsions would be discussed with the Superintendent prior to the hearing. The “Hearing Board” would make decisions by a consensus; members include a hearing officer, administrator for a different school, interventionist, and board members. Decisions can be appealed before the entire board. Discussion included board members involvement at the hearing level, the number of board members involved, and what is in the best interest of students. The topic will be placed on the next Board Retreat.

PUBLIC COMMENT

No public comments were given.

SUPERINTENDENT COMMENTS

No comments were given.

BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS

Art McClenney expressed concern over the condition of the soccer field at Central’s Athletic Complex.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 6:40 p.m.