

**BATTLE CREEK BOARD OF EDUCATION
REGULAR MEETING
October 17, 2011
7:00 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. Jeff Greene – Resource Development Coordinator
Deborah Gregory – Executive Director of Financial Services
Dianne Hatley – Interim Executive Director of Human Resources
Angela Mitchell – Special Education Supervisor
Tim Scott – Assistant Director of Facilities & Operations
Donna Straight – Special Education Supervisor

MINUTES

The meeting was called to order by President Evans at 7:00 p.m. All board members were present. Approximately thirty citizens were in attendance.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Item B under reports “finance committee report” was removed from the agenda. Item C under New Business “Consideration to Approve Recommendations for the Vacant School Properties” was replaced with a motion instructing Dr. Hicks to secure information requested by the board.

Burton – add a motion to further instruct hicks to secure information that the board has requested and the authorization to proceed

The agenda was unanimously approved as amended.

Motion approved 7 – 0

REPORTS

Board Committee Reports:

Public Relations: William Burton reported that the Public Relations committee met twice in September. It is the committee’s desire to include people from the community to bring new skills to the table in order to address items in the strategic plan. This wide range of members will provide a means to address specific strategies to change the district’s perception in the community.

MAP Testing

Dr. Jeff Greene, Resource Development Coordinator, reported on Measurement of Academic progress (MAP) testing. MAP was developed by Northwest Evaluation Association and is used nationally. MAP assessment results will allow teachers to find out how well they are teaching and identify possible areas for professional development and allow for progress/improvement monitoring. MAP is a good psychometric performance, is computer adaptive, is aligned to MEAP, and within 24 hours raw data is available. Implementation includes reading and math in grades 1 through 9 administered annually in September, January, and May.

Dudley STEM School Update

Tamara Jamierson, principal at Dudley STEM, presented an update on Dudley STEM happenings. The Dudley STEM vision is to have their students attend the Math & Science Center. The mission is to prepare the next generation.

Dr. Jeffrey Greene, Resource Development Coordinator, shared a logic model detailing the path of Dudley STEM. If the staff is deliberate about teaching STEM, why it is important, create an instructional environment with active learning, success will be the result.

Kathy Grosso, Dudley STEM Facilitator, reported on indicators of success in the areas of student achievement, attendance, behavior/discipline, critical thinking, and enthusiasm. She shared a video that highlighted students talking about what STEM is and what they want to be when they grow up.

Mrs. Jamierson reported that her staff was excited after returning from the Professional Learning Community conference. They have adopted teaming, intentional instruction, school-wide reading time, and have nurtured community partners.

Mary Phillips, technology teacher, demonstrated the use of QR codes with iPads. Dudley staff is committed to using technology to increase student achievement. Her class will record and broadcast school news with a journalism club to write the stories.

Mrs. Jamierson encouraged board members to visit Dudley STEM to see the many good changes.

CONSENT AGENDA

Minutes of the Special, Closed Session and Regular board meeting of September 19, 2011.

Bills for the month of September 2011

Personnel Report and Recognition of Retirees

New Hires:

Bernard Brown has been hired as an administrator assigned as assistant principal at Battle Creek Central High School effective October 10, 2011. **Amy Cosgrove-Bridges** has been rehired as an intervention Specialist assigned to Northwestern Middle School effective September 26, 2011. **Rachael Hart** has been hired as an Intervention Specialist at LaMora Park and Fremont Elementary effective October 24, 2011.

Resignation:

Laura Jones, food service assigned to Coburn Elementary, resigned effective September 30, 2011. **Margaret Malone**, Fine Arts Coordinator, resigned effective

September 9, 2011.

Retirements:

Cindy Colby, special education paraprofessional assigned to Battle Creek Central High School, is retiring effective January 6, 2012. **Delores Katz**, special education job coach assigned to Battle Creek Central High School, is retiring effective January 6, 2012.

Reinstatement Committee Recommendation

Moved by Mr. Hoelscher, supported by Mr. McClenney, to approve the consent agenda as presented.

Motion approved 7 – 0

PUBLIC COMMENT

David Moore, community member, believes the district can find good use for the vacant buildings and keep the heritage of the buildings. He complimented the fans for coming out to football games in cold weather and praised the team.

NEW BUSINESS

Consideration to Approve Teacher Evaluations – Domains

Dr. Jeffrey Greene, presented teacher evaluation domains for approval. He proposed adding the student achievement growth domain as part of teacher evaluation. Susan Buckley expressed concern that more emphasis was not placed on student achievement. She will not support the evaluation because she wants more focus on results and not the process.

Moved by Mr. Hoelscher, supported by Mr. McClenney, to approve domains as presented and add student achievement as 5th domain of teacher evaluations.

**Motion approved 6 – 1
Buckley opposed**

Consideration to Approve Recommendations for Franklin Elementary School

Superintendent Hicks welcomed Franklin parents and students in attendance. She presented the recommendation of \$2 million for expansion and upgrades at Franklin Elementary. The project will be completed using the building and grounds funds, USF funds, and a minimal amount of general funds. Board approval will allow the administration to proceed obtaining accurate estimates to go forward with the building project.

Moved by Mr. Stagner, supported by Ms. Buckley, to approve recommendations of expansion and upgrades at Franklin Elementary.

Motion approved 7 – 0

Consideration to Approve Guidance to Superintendent Hicks to Gather Information Regarding Vacant School Properties

Moved by Mr. Burton, supported by Ms. Buckley, to authorize Superintendent Hicks to proceed with due diligence in regards to securing bids and information that will assist in recommendation to board regarding dispensation of the properties and board doing the same.

Consideration to Approve the Strategic Plan

Superintendent Hicks presented the strategic plan for approval. The Strategic Plan is critical to developing action plans and creating baseline data within the district.

Moved by Mr. McClenney, supported by Mr. Hoelscher, to approve the Strategic Plan as presented.

Motion approved 7 – 0

SUPERINTENDENT COMMENTS

Superintendent Hicks commented on:

- Alternative Ed – Alternative education students participate with homeless vets in the community purchasing personal items to be delivered and visited the cemetery on October 19.
- STEM – she applauded the excellent presentation by Dudley STEM staff.
- Robotics Club – Northwestern and Springfield Middle Schools have started a competitive robotics club. Students must submit an essay to apply. Ten students participated in the first round.
- Spirit Week – In preparation for the Lakeview game, every day this week high school students wore colors that represent community issues such as breast cancer, hunger, bullying, heart disease. Four hundred dollars were raised in the stands during the game to contribute to the issues being recognized throughout the week.
- College Going Culture – Jessica Cornwell has helped the high school embrace the idea of going to college.
- Enquirer – board members were encouraged to read the article featuring one of our high school students who visited the Kellogg Foundation and began her dream.
- Kudos – A parent called to praise Toni McClenney and the positive direction she is taking Verona Elementary.

BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS

Steve Hoelscher encouraged those in attendance to write to their legislators in Lansing regarding moving school elections to November and lifting the cap on Charter schools.

Scott Cubberly applauded the high school staff in developing activities for students during homecoming week. Students enjoyed the experience and showed their bearcat pride.

President Evans thanked Dudley STEM staff for a successful family dinner. She reminded board members of upcoming events:

- Superintendent Advisory - November 7 at 5:30 p.m. in the Commons
- Board retreat – October 22 at 8:30 a.m. at the Outdoor Education Center
- MASB Fall Conference – October 27

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 8:47 p.m.