

**BATTLE CREEK BOARD OF EDUCATION
REGULAR BOARD MEETING
September 21, 2015
6:30 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 6:32 p.m. All board members were present. Approximately 24 citizens and staff were in attendance.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Kellie Thomas made the motion to approve the agenda.
Catherine LaValley supported that motion.

Motion approved 7-0

ABOVE AND BEYOND AWARDS

Dr. Stagner presented Above and Beyond awards to three people for the outstanding job they did on the memory brick wall at the BCCHS. They were: Tim Scott (absent), Leon Watson and Ray Horn.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Student Achievement Committee Report by Scott Cubberly – Discussed and approved the handbooks that were in your packets.

Finance and Physical Resource Committee Report by Kellie Thomas – Talked about the maintenance projects and some of the events that will be coming up. We also talked the FTE's and the need for more butts in the seats.

Board Policy Committee Report by Karen Evans – We did not have a board policy committee

meeting. We are waiting for our attorney and we should hear from him in October. Hopefully we will have an update in November.

CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS

Scott Cubberly made a motion to approve the Consent Agenda Items as presented. Kellie Thomas supported that motion.

Motion approved 7-0

PUBLIC COMMENTS

None

NEW ADMINISTRATORS

Interim Superintendent Kim Parker-DeVauld introduced the following new administrators:

- Calvin Williams, Assistant Principal, BCCHS
- Donal Loomis, Assistant Principal, Northwestern Middle School
- Jennifer Kay, Principal, Urbandale Elementary
- Stephenie Bruce, Principal, Valley View Elementary

Karen Evans made a motion to approve the new administrators. Catherine LaValley supported that motion.

Motion approved 7-0

SCHOOL YEAR UPDATE

Kim Parker-DeVauld discussed the Middle School Transformation and the Breakfast in the Classroom for the Elementary Schools.

Middle School Transformation project include 6th grade academy. All of the middle school students have access to advisory sessions. We have Student Administrative Managers (SAMS) in each building. This will help build upon the success of the 9th grade academy and the middle schools have now designed intentional support around students to truly ensure no student is left behind.

As of today we have successfully implement breakfast across all of our kindergarten grade classrooms. Students are receiving a healthy meal on a daily basis with their teachers. This has increased the number of students who are accessing those healthy meals every day.

We are excited about the changes that will help the district move from good to great!

As we look forward on our enrollment, currently we have 4,571 soft-count bodies in seats. That is down approximately 537 students at this time last year. But we still have students enrolling on a daily basis and our teachers are making sure that they make phone calls so that students are present. We are looking for that number to increase in the coming weeks. The official count is in October.

2015-2016 STUDENT HANDBOOKS

Monique Cheeks discussed the Elementary, Middle School and High School Handbooks that was in the board packet. They were designed and developed to provide consistency across all levels. Each book contains school information, homework policy, attendance procedures, bus, lunch, nurse and medicine information, and the “how to’s and need to knows” of the school. The SAC

reviewed and revised the edits that were asked of that committee and all of you received the updated copy.

More revisions were discussed. Revisions will be made and handbooks will be forwarded for printing.

Catherine LaValley made a motion to approve the Elementary, Middle School and High School Student Handbooks with the requested revisions.

Scott Cubberly supported the motion.

Motion passed 7-0

2015-2016 STUDENT CODE OF CONDUCT

Monique Cheeks discussed the code of conduct.

Kellie Thomas made a motion to approve the 2015-2016 Student Code of Conduct.

Karen Evans supported that motion.

Motion passed 7-0

CLOSED SESSION

Scott Cubberly made a motion to go into closed session pursuant to Subsection 8(c) of the Open Meetings Act to discuss Collective Bargaining Strategy.

Catherine LaValley supported that motion.

Motion passed 7-0

Adjourned for closed session at 7:06 p.m.

Reconvened at 7:14 p.m.

RATIFY TENTATIVE AGREEMENT WITH THE BCEA AND THE DISTRICT

Art Clenney made a motion to approve the Tentative Agreement between the BCEA and the District.

Karen Evans supported that motion.

Roll call vote:

Art McClenney	Yes
Scott Cubberly	Yes
Kellie Thomas	Yes
Karen Evans	Yes
Catherine LaValley	Yes
Nathan Grajek	Yes
Dr. Todd Stagne	Abstained

Motion passed 6- 0

Dr. Stagner abstained from voting due to conflict of interest.

SUPERINTENDENT COMMENTS

Kim Parker-DeVauld began by saying congratulations to all of the sports teams in Battle Creek Public Schools and not just for the hard fought wins that have occurred over the past few weeks,

but more importantly for the sportsmanship, dedication and commitment that each of our athletes have shown during the course of their competitions. She has received numerous accolades for our students and wanted to publicly acknowledge their gamesmanship and integrity.

She also thanked the BCPS Heroes who worked to ensure a smooth start to the school year. We kicked off breakfast in the classroom across all elementary and middle schools which have increased student access to healthy meals. We have dedicated staff members across all levels that have worked tirelessly to ensure that students were received and transitioned back with the upmost grace and finesse. BCPS is a great place to be and I am looking forward to a great year.

BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS

Karen Evans – Well as you know we have MASB Conference coming up October 22 – 25. I just want to echo how important it is as board members to set the standard. We expect our staff members, our administrators and our teachers to participate in professional development. This is our professional development. I think it is important that we set the example by doing so. I hope that you all can make it.

Art McClenney – He is so proud of the football team for beating our cross-town rival, Lakeview. We showed a lot of team spirit and we all conducted ourselves in a wonderful manner. It was nice. It's been a while! The band – they did a nice job in the rain. They looked well. They dressed well.

Nathan Grajek – I attended a couple of the open houses recently. I was really impressed. I got a chance to see what the school had going on. I especially enjoyed Dudley with their new setup and STEM curriculum.

Kellie Thomas – Had the opportunity to work in the concession stand. All students and staff have been very appreciative. The band is having a fundraiser. For \$5, you have the opportunity to win a private performance of the marching band along with lunch for you and 20 of your family and friends. It's a fundraiser to help the students travel to Disney World in Florida. The winner will be drawn this Saturday at the Marching Band Invitational.

Catherine LaValley – I really like how Kim has made our theme “The Power of Us.” I noticed how she has put three words below that starting with P – Pride Performance Potential. I am very proud in the open houses that I have attended. The Pride that is clearly shown by the student, the teachers and the principals. It was an awesome experience in the eight open houses that I was able to attend. The Performance I would say that the BCC band joining with the BC Lakeview band on September 11, to perform “America the Beautiful”. That was the most moving – it was at sunset. It could not have been a better evening. The students all standing together was awesome to see, and at the end a Bearcat and a Spartan band member played Taps at the end of the performance was incredible. And the Potential – coming up on October 6, the Battle Creek City Commission Meeting will honor one of our students, Alvin White, on his neighborhood committee #5 banner. They will honor him and his family. It starts at 7 p.m. at City Hall.

I also stopped by the OEC. The staff was providing a look and see time for the students and their parents as they get ready to enjoy a week of camp.

Dr. Stagner – Added his comments about the band and the administration showing up to help out and do what they could do. At the Al Leibert court dedication, there was not a dry eye in the house when he took the mic. The students quieted down and I think they really understand what

a special person Mr. Leibert is. I am going to talk to Mr. Holley about getting a plaque to describe the things that he did for this district that we will hang on the wall.

Meeting adjourned at 7:27 p.m.