

BATTLE CREEK PUBLIC SCHOOLS BOARD OF EDUCATION

Regular Meeting

January 24, 2022

Board Room at the Administration Building, 3 West Van Buren Street, Battle Creek, MI

5:30p.m.

PRESENT – BOARD OF EDUCATION

Catherine LaValley

Kyra Wallace

Charlie Fulbright

Art McClenney

Nathan Grajek

Absent

Patty Poole-Gray

Jacqueline Slaby

Present – Administration

Kim Carter – Superintendent

Dr. Chandra Youngblood – Director, Elementary Education

Robin Beyer – Acting Director, Human Resources

Monique Cheeks – Director, Student Services (Virtual)

Rhonda Potts - Executive Director

Nathan Hunt – Communications Manager

Wes Seeley – Director of Grant, Federal Programs and Adult Education

Absent – Administration

Mitch Fowler – Assistant Superintendent of Curriculum, Instruction and Assessment

Dr. Deborah Nuzzi, Director, Special Programming & Literacy Services

Dr. Anita Harvey – Director, District Transformation

Jeff English – Senior Executive Director of Business Operations

MINUTES

The meeting was called to order by President LaValley at 5:38pm. Catherine LaValley, Kyra Wallace, Charlie Fulbright, Art McClenney and Nathan Grajek were present.

President LaValley read aloud our Mission Statement.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Motion by Trustee Art McClenney to approve the Agenda as presented.

Treasurer Charlie Fulbright supported the Motion.

Motion passed 5 – 0.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

None.

CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS

Motion by Treasurer Charlie Fulbright to approve the Consent Agenda items.

- A. Trust Fund/Comerica (Written only)
- B. Minutes of the Work Session on December 6, 2021
and Regular Meeting on December 13, 2021
- C. Bills for the Month of December 2021
- D. Personnel Changes and Recognition of Retirees
- E. Membership Report
- F. Finance Report
- G. Revised Schedule of Monthly Board Meetings
for 2021-2022 School Year

Vice President Kyra Wallace supported the Motion.

Motion passed 5 – 0.

DISCUSSION

Board Appreciation Recognition

Superintendent Kim Carter shared that January is Board Appreciation Month. She acknowledged that Battle Creek Public Schools is fortunate to have the most amazing Board.

Each Building Principal provided the Board Trustee assigned to their Building with an Appreciation Gift and expressed their appreciation.

Board Member Building Assignments

President Catherine LaValley discussed the Board Member Building Assignments and confirmed that Board Trustees were okay with their Building Assignments for the upcoming year.

President LaValley commented the Board feels very well appreciated this evening and that it has been a remarkable evening.

REPORTS & RECOMMENDATIONS

Architectural Services for HVAC System RFP

Rhonda Potts discussed the RFP Process for the Architectural Services for HVAC System. The amount is not to exceed 7.13% of the total construction costs and the Funding Source will be ESSER III Funds.

Construction Manager for HVAC System RFP

Rhonda Potts discussed the RFP Process for the Construction Manager for HVAC System. The amount is not to exceed 4.38% of the total construction costs and the Funding Source will be ESSER III Funds.

Instructional Program Policy – 1st Reading

Monique Cheeks discussed the Instructional Program Policy and provided a 1st Reading of Policy 7760 (Controversial Issues).

There will be a 2nd Reading of Policy 7760 (Controversial Issues) and the Board will vote on the adoption of this Policy at the Work Session on February 14, 2022.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

None.

NEW BUSINESS

Elementary Summer Reading Books

Motion by Treasurer Charlie Fulbright to approve the Elementary Summer Reading Books in an amount not to exceed \$80,000.00 with the Funding Source being Title I Funds.

Trustee Nathan Grajek and Vice President Kyra Wallace supported the Motion.

Motion passed 5 – 0.

Master Scheduling Contract Services with Education Advance

Motion by Vice President Kyra Wallace to approve the Master Scheduling Contract Services with Education Advance in the amount of \$30,000.00 with the Funding Source being ESSER Funds.

Trustee Art McClenney supported the Motion.

Motion passed 5 – 0.

SUPERINTENDENT COMMENTS

Superintendent Kim Carter again thanked the BCPS Board for their continued service to the entire BCPS District and School Community. She noted it has not been easy in this trying time to move the work forward but the Board has stood tall and made decisions in support of student success and she looks forward to continuing to collaborate with the Board so all BCPS students get what they need.

BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS

Vice President Kyra Wallace thanked the District for the outpouring of appreciation to Board Members. She congratulated the WK Prep High School Graduates.

Trustee Art McClenney thanked BCCHS, WK Prep HS and Adult Education for his gifts, noting he really appreciated receiving his favorite things, especially Pay Day candy bars. He congratulated the WK Prep High School Graduates.

Trustee Nathan Grajek thanked everyone for the show of appreciation to the Board tonight. He appreciates his gifts and cannot wait to share them with family, noting he really appreciated receiving gluten-free goodies for his wife. He looks forward to another great year of serving on the Board.

Treasurer Charlie Fulbright thanked everyone for coming this evening to support himself and his fellow Trustees. He said since he was first elected he has never thought of this as a job. It is something he really enjoys doing and having a month to celebrate Board Members means a lot. He thanked his Post-Franklin and Verona families, as well as all the schools who came out this evening to support the Board.

President Catherine LaValley noted we had two Board Trustees who were not able to attend this evening, noting we will make sure they receive their appreciation gifts.

President LaValley shared the following comments:

- She again noted it was a special evening to cap off a special month - January being Board Appreciation Month throughout the State of Michigan. She noted all the wonderful and creative gifts to the Board Trustees were welcome and appreciated.
- She attended the Martin Luther King Celebration on January 17th at Kellogg Arena. The Speaker Mark Lamont Hill was excellent. There was a good turnout at this event. She thanked Trustee Wallace for her organization of this event and added she thought Martin Luther King would be very appreciative of what happened that day.
She also thanked the City of Battle Creek for providing free parking for this event and commented we live in a City that truly care about people.
- She attended the Michigan Education Justice Coalition Virtual Event for Healthy & Healing Schools for All on January 17th. Treasurer Charlie Fulbright also attended. She said this was a special event to spark interest in running for a School Board.
- She congratulated the BCCHS Wrestlers for becoming City Champions in an All-City Meet.
- She discussed the MASB Members Matter event last week in which the discussion was about all kinds of concerns that School Board Members have at this time. She shared that a week from tonight there will be a session through the MASB providing an update on the Governor's Plans.
- Last Tuesday she attended the National Day of Racial Hearing sponsored by the WK Kellogg Foundation. She was very impressed with the speaker, Heather McGee who was interviewed by LaJune Montgomery.
- She enjoyed the Graduation that took place at Kellogg Auditorium last Friday and was so happy for the WK Prep High School Graduates. There was a good turnout for this event.

Trustee Art McClenney asked to give a shout out to Brooklyn Williams, a BCPS student who works at McDonald's. He said whenever he goes through the drive-thru she is very pleasant and says please and thank you every time; she is just the most pleasant person. He told her he was going to give her a shout out and make her day because she makes his every time he goes there.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 6:27pm.

Submitted by
Patti Worden

Patty Poole-Gray
Board Secretary