

**BATTLE CREEK PUBLIC SCHOOLS BOARD OF EDUCATION**

**Regular Meeting**

**July 26, 2021**

**Miller Stone Conference Room, 77 Capital Avenue NE, Battle Creek  
Immediately following the Budget Hearing**

**PRESENT – BOARD OF EDUCATION**

Catherine LaValley

Kyra Wallace

Charlie Fulbright

Nathan Grajek (arrived at 6:05pm)

**Absent**

Patty Poole-Gray

Jacqueline Slaby

Art McClenney

**Present – Administration**

Kim Carter – Superintendent

Dr. Chandra Youngblood – Director, Elementary Education

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

Monique Cheeks – Director, Student Services (remote attendance)

Mitch Fowler, Director, School Data Systems & Innovations

Nathan Hunt – Communications Manager

Rhonda Potts - Executive Director

Pat McCann – Chief Executive Officer, Human Resources

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

**Absent – Administration**

Dr. Anita Harvey – Director, District Transformation

Jeff English – Executive Director

**MINUTES**

The meeting was called to order by President LaValley at 5:36pm. Catherine LaValley, Kyra Wallace, and Charlie Fulbright were present.

President LaValley announced that Trustee Nathan Grajek would be arriving shortly.

### **APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

Motion by Vice President Kyra Wallace to approve the Agenda with the following additions:

- Add Greenstreet Marketing under Reports & Recommendations and New Business, for an amount up to \$16,000.00 and the funding source being the WKKF Grant.
- Add the Adult Education Handbook under Reports & Recommendations.

Treasurer Charlie Fulbright supported the Motion.

A Roll Call Vote was taken.

**Motion passed 3 – 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 June 14, 2021  
Closed Session on June 14, 2021, Budget Hearing  
on June 28, 2021, Regular Meeting on June 28, 2021  
and Closed Session on June 28, 2021
- C. Bills for the Month of June 2021
- D. Personnel Changes and Recognition of Retirees
- E. Finance Report
- F. Student Device Monitoring Software
- G. Zoom License Renewal
- H. K-5 iReady Subscription Costs and Professional Development
- I. HMH 6-12 Intervention Subscription Renewal

Vice President Kyra Wallace supported the Motion.

A Roll Call Vote was taken.

**Motion passed 3 – 0.**

## **REPORTS AND RECOMMENDATIONS**

### GVSU Update

Superintendent Kim Carter introduced and welcomed Al Shifflett III, Director of Community Engagement, Grand Valley State University, Battle Creek Outreach Center.

Al Shifflett III shared a presentation about the partnership between BCPS and GVSU and shared he is a Bearcat Alum.

Trustee Nathan Grajek arrived at 6:05pm.

### Elementary, Middle School and High School Student Handbooks

Monique Cheeks (remote attendance) discussed the Elementary, Middle School and High School Student Handbooks. She provided minor updates that were made to the Handbooks. Monique also discussed the Code of Conduct.

Monique noted that later in the meeting she will talk about the recommendation for work with Greenstreet Marketing who will handle the branding/formatting issues of the Handbooks for us. Monique hopes to have the Handbooks available for the Board at the August 9<sup>th</sup> Work Session.

President Catherine LaValley thanked Monique for bringing the Handbooks to the Board at the July meeting.

The Board will vote on this matter at the Work Session on August 9, 2021.

### Middle School and High School Athletic Handbooks

Monique Cheeks (remote attendance) discussed the Middle School and High School Athletic Handbooks.

There was discussion around adding the Non Discrimination Conduct language in the Athletic Handbook.

Superintendent Kim Carter noted her approval for adding this language.

The Board Trustees in attendance at the meeting also agreed to adding this language.

The Board will vote on this matter at the Work Session on August 9, 2021.

Tentative Agreement between Board of Education of the School District of the City of Battle Creek (“District”) and the Battle Creek Educational Secretaries, MEA/NEA (BCES)  
Pat McCann discussed the Tentative Agreement between the District and the BCES.

The title should be corrected to read “Tentative Agreement between Board of Education of Battle Creek Public Schools and the Battle Creek Educational Secretaries, MEA/NEA (BCES)”.

It was noted the Secretaries Union has approved the Agreement.

Tentative Agreement between Board of Education of the School District of the City of Battle Creek (“District”) and the Battle Creek Paraprofessional Association, MEA/NEA (BCPA)  
Pat McCann discussed the Tentative Agreement between the District and the BCPA.

The title should be corrected to read “Tentative Agreement between Board of Education of Battle Creek Public Schools and the Battle Creek Paraprofessional Association, MEA/NEA (BCPA)”.

It was noted the Paraprofessional Union has approved the Agreement.

#### Greenstreet Marketing

Monique Cheeks (remote attendance) discussed the Greenstreet Marketing contract for the redesign and formatting of the District Handbooks to match District branding in the amount of up to \$16,000.00 with the funding source being the WKKF Grant.

There was discussion about the Handbooks being translated in Burmese and Spanish. It was reported electronic copies of the Handbooks are provided in Burmese and Spanish.

There was discussion about the funding for the work with Greenstreet Marketing. It was noted this work is a service and not a goods so the RFP process does not apply.

#### Adult Education Handbook

Wes Seeley discussed the Adult Education Handbook.

The Board will vote on this matter at the Work Session on August 9, 2021.

### **DISCUSSION**

#### August Meeting Structure

President Catherine LaValley discussed the need for the Board to solidify the location for August meetings.

Superintendent Kim Carter requested the Board move back to 3 West Van Buren (Administration Building) for Board Meetings beginning in August and going forward. She reported we have over 600 employees returning in August and we need a place to provide professional development. Miller Stone is currently not available for professional development because the Board Meetings are currently held in this space. We will have to look at renting another facility for professional development if the Board Meetings are not relocated.

The Board Members agreed with returning to the Board Room at the Administration Building for future Board Meetings.

### **PUBLIC COMMENTS**

None.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

### **Facility Assessment**

Motion by Vice President Kyra Wallace to approve the Facilities Assessment in the amount of \$26,425.00 with the funding source being ESSER Funds.

Treasurer Charlie Fulbright supported the Motion.

A Roll Call Vote was taken.

**Motion passed 4 – 0.**

### **Bronson Athletic Trainer**

Motion by Vice President Kyra Wallace to approve the Bronson Athletic Trainer in the amount of \$28,000.00 with the funding sources being WKKF Athletics (\$10,000.00) and General Fund Athletics (\$18,000.00).

Treasurer Charlie Fulbright supported the Motion.

A Roll Call Vote was taken.

**Motion passed 4 – 0.**

### **Kozai Consulting Partnership**

Motion by Vice President Kyra Wallace to approve the Kozai Consulting Partnership in an amount not to exceed \$50,000.00 with the funding source being ESSER Funds.

Treasurer Charlie Fulbright supported the Motion.

Superintendent Kim Carter clarified this work is with Instructional Coaches for student success.

A Roll Call Vote was taken.

**Motion passed 4 – 0.**

K-5 LETRS Training

Motion by Vice President Kyra Wallace to approve the K-5 LETRS Training in the amount of \$78,229.00 with the funding source being ESSER Funds.

Treasurer Charlie Fulbright supported the Motion.

A Roll Call Vote was taken.

**Motion passed 4 – 0.**

Reading Apprenticeship Training 6-12

Motion by Vice President Kyra Wallace to approve the Reading Apprenticeship Training 6-12 in the amount of \$156,000.00 with the funding source being ESSER Funds.

Treasurer Charlie Fulbright supported the Motion.

A Roll Call Vote was taken.

**Motion passed 4 – 0.**

Truth & Titus Collective Contract Renewal

Motion by Vice President Kyra Wallace to approve the Truth & Titus Collective Contract Renewal in the amount of \$45,000.00 with the funding source being the WKKF Grant.

Treasurer Charlie Fulbright supported the Motion.

A Roll Call Vote was taken.

**Motion passed 4 – 0.**

The Equity Collective

Motion by Vice President Kyra Wallace to approve The Equity Collective in the amount of \$25,000.00 with the funding source being the WKKF Grant.

Treasurer Charlie Fulbright supported the Motion.

A Roll Call Vote was taken.

**Motion passed 4 – 0.**

Tentative Agreement between Board of Education of the School District of the City of Battle Creek (“District”) and the Battle Creek Educational Secretaries, MEA/NEA (BCES)  
Motion by Vice President Kyra Wallace to approve the Tentative Agreement between the Board of Education of Battle Creek Public Schools and the Battle Creek Educational Secretaries.

Treasurer Charlie Fulbright supported the Motion.

A Roll Call Vote was taken.

**Motion passed 4 – 0.**

Tentative Agreement between Board of Education of the School District of the City of Battle Creek (“District”) and the Battle Creek Paraprofessional Association, MEA/NEA (BCPA)  
Motion by Vice President Kyra Wallace to approve the Tentative Agreement between the Board of Education of Battle Creek Public Schools and the Battle Creek Paraprofessional Association.

Treasurer Charlie Fulbright supported the Motion.

A Roll Call Vote was taken.

**Motion passed 4 – 0.**

#### Greenstreet Marketing

Motion by Vice President Kyra Wallace to approve the Greenstreet Marketing recommendation in the amount of up to \$16,000.00 with the funding source being the WKKF Grant.

Treasurer Charlie Fulbright supported the Motion.

A Roll Call Vote was taken.

**Motion passed 4 – 0.**

#### **SUPERINTENDENT COMMENTS**

Superintendent Kim Carter said she was excited to remind everyone that we have the Healthy Living Carnival this Thursday from 10:00am to 6:00pm at BCCHS on the Spirit Field. The Carnival is a free event and is presented by CIS and Grace Health. All ages K-12 and families are invited. There will be an inflatable obstacle course, free carnival games, free food, free sports physicals, free vision and hearing screenings, COVID vaccines, required immunizations, free swag and lot of giveaways. Parent Guardians must be present for physicals and COVID vaccines. This will be a great opportunity for our school community and we hope our families will join us.

Superintendent Carter shared that on Tuesday, July 27<sup>th</sup> at NWMS from 3:00-6:00pm and again on August 17<sup>th</sup> there will be an opportunity with the Public Health Department and Grace Health for COVID Vaccines. We hope our families will take advantage of these great opportunities.

## **BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS**

President Catherine LaValley shared the following:

- She attended very successful Brass Band Concerts for our High School and Middle School students in the last 2 weeks. The High School Concert was well attended at the WK Kellogg Auditorium on July 16<sup>th</sup>. The Middle School Concert was at Marshall High School on July 21<sup>st</sup>.

The Middle School Band met for 3 days and then put on a Concert and the sound from the brass players was quite rewarding. She knew of one student who wanted this Band Camp to last for more than 3 days because he enjoyed it so much.

This was a wonderful opportunity for Brass Band musicians to come in and talk with Band Directors and help students learn more about music and provide the opportunity for students to hear experts with brass instruments.

- Calhoun County residents have an opportunity to take part in an internet access survey. This survey was developed to determine how County residents access the internet and determine internet gaps. The survey has been up for 2 weeks and continues to be available.

The survey is available at: [Michiganmoonshot.org/Calhoun](https://Michiganmoonshot.org/Calhoun)

She completed the survey and it took less than 10 minutes.

There was a Shopper article that explained this valuable survey tool.

- She attended the walk thru virtual Budget meeting. It was very comprehensive and had a lot of budget numbers, big numbers.
- She attended the virtual MASB Session on the new Michigan School Budget for 2021-2022.

## **ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting was adjourned at 7:28pm.

Submitted by  
Patti Worden

Patty Poole-Gray  
Board Secretary