

BATTLE CREEK PUBLIC SCHOOLS BOARD OF EDUCATION

Regular Meeting

May 23, 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

Patty Poole-Gray

Charlie Fulbright

Art McClenney

Nathan Grajek

Absent

Jacqueline Slaby

Present – Administration

Kim Carter – Superintendent

Mitch Fowler – Assistant Superintendent of Curriculum, Instruction and Assessment

Jeff English – Senior Executive Director of Business Operations

Rhonda Potts - Executive Director

Dr. Chandra Youngblood – Director, Elementary Education

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

Dr. Anita Harvey – Director, District Transformation

Robin Beyer – Acting Director, Human Resources

Monique Cheeks – Director, Student Services

Nathan Hunt – Communications Manager

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

MINUTES

The meeting was called to order by President LaValley at 5:31pm. Catherine LaValley, Kyra Wallace, Patty Poole-Gray, Charlie Fulbright, Art McClenney and Nathan Grajek were present.

The Interpreters for tonight's meeting were introduced.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

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

Vice President Kyra Wallace supported the Motion.

Motion passed 6 – 0.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

David Makled
Calhoun County Public Defender's Office
190 East Michigan Avenue
Battle Creek MI 49014
(269) 945-0600

David talked about the Defender's Office, noting Trustee McClenney works there too. He wanted to share with the Board that he is having a great experience working with BCCHS Students. They are working to pursue a holistic defense model, getting social workers involved and reaching out to the Community.

David said he wanted to be involved with High School Students in some fashion and Trustee McClenney suggested he hook up with BCCHS. It has been a great experience and they are working with Joe Hearn's practical law class which has a great model for the Career Academies and the Community Partners.

Last Fall their work with the class ended up being around Supreme Court work. He loved the mix they provided between studying at school and the real life experience because it is really working.

This Winter for the Final Exam, they conducted Mock Trials in the Courthouse with a Judge. They did a run-thru last week and students who didn't speak much when the program began are now getting up in front of Judges and lawyers. He is very proud of the BCCHS Students and he hopes to continue with this program in the future. The Mock Trials will be held this Thursday, May 26th, from 9:00-10:30 am in Judge Bomia's Courtroom.

Karolynn Ferguson
18 South Broad Street
Battle Creek MI
(269) 968-4029

Karolynn shared her thoughts about the Painted Rock Project for the front of BCCHS and the issues that a similar project in the past which created and resulted in vandalism. Damages included door knobs, drinking fountains (which is why bottled water replaced the drinking fountains) and broken windows.

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 April 11, 2022, Closed Session on April 11, 2022 and Regular Meeting on April 25, 2022
- C. Bills for the Month of April 2022
- D. Personnel Changes and Recognition of Retirees
- E. Membership Report
- F. Finance Report
- G. Approval of AO Jones Scholarship Applications

Vice President Kyra Wallace supported the Motion.

Motion passed 6 – 0.

REPORTS & RECOMMENDATIONS

National Equity Project (NEP)

Superintendent Kim Carter introduced Hugh Vasquez.

Hugh Vasquez virtually discussed the National Equity Project Report.

Kozai Consulting Partnership Report

Superintendent Kim Carter introduced Wilma Kozai.

Wilma Kozai virtually discussed the Kozai Consulting Partnership Report.

Fenton Report

Superintendent Kim Carter welcome the Fenton Team who were present in-person.

Alyssa Singer, Paul Hernandez and Molly Spillman discussed the Fenton Report.

Burrell Communications Report

Angelica Jones discussed the Burrell Communications Report.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

None.

**CONSIDERATION TO GO INTO CLOSED SESSION
FOR THE PURPOSE OF DISCUSSING
COLLECTIVE BARGAINING NEGOTIATIONS**

Motion by Treasurer Charlie Fulbright to go into Closed Session at 7:25pm for the purpose of discussing collective bargaining negotiations.

Vice President Kyra Wallace supported the Motion.

A Roll Call Vote was taken.

Motion passed 6 – 0.

CONSIDERATION TO RECONVENE

Motion by Treasurer Charlie Fulbright to Reconvene at 7:50pm.

Trustee Art McClenney supported the Motion.

Motion passed 6 – 0.

NEW BUSINESS

Tentative Agreement between BCPS and the BCEA
and Compensation Increases for the Administrators and Professionals Group

Motion by Treasurer Charlie Fulbright to approve the Tentative Agreement between BCPS and the BCEA and the Compensation Increases for the Administrators and Professionals Group.

Vice President Kyra Wallace supported the Motion.

A Roll Call Vote was taken.

Motion passed 6 – 0.

Resolution Opposing “Let MI Kids Learn” Voucher Initiatives

Motion by Treasurer Charlie Fulbright to approve the Resolution Opposing “Let MI Kids Learn” Voucher Initiatives.

Trustee Art McClenney supported the Motion.

A Roll Call Vote was taken.

Motion passed 6 – 0.

Design Services for SMS Furniture

Motion by Vice President Kyra Wallace to approve the Design Services for SMS Furniture in the amount of \$17,618.00 with the Funding Source being the WKKF Grant.

Trustee Art McClenney and Treasurer Charlie Fulbright supported the Motion.

Motion passed 6 – 0.

SUPERINTENDENT COMMENTS

Superintendent Kim Carter commented that Teachers are the heart and soul of BCPS and their commitment impacts students every day. She thanked the Teachers for their commitment and thanked the Board for approving the 3-Year Contract and Salary Recommendations for the Administrators and Professional Groups, noting they too are impactful across the District.

Superintendent Carter closed by again expressing her appreciation for the Staff and all they do.

BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS

Vice President Kyra Wallace shared the following comments:

- She expressed her appreciation for all the Reports given this evening, noting they were very informative and she appreciates the work the District has done which allows the partner groups to have content to their work with us. She said “Great Things Are Happening at Battle Creek Public Schools” which is very encouraging and enlightening.
- She announced the KYD Network has established a relationship with BCPS and will be offering Bearcat Blast Fun Fridays. They are hiring teens 16-years and older with a starting pay of \$15.00 per hour. Interested parties should contact Ariel Laws at 269-455-8216.

Trustee Art McClenney shared the following comments:

- He agreed with Vice President Wallace that it was nice to hear from the two different Communications Companies we work with and to have their explanations about the work they do because they each have a different mission.
- He attended the Senior Honor Awards last week and enjoyed the celebration. Some Graduates are going off to college and some are going into the work force. He is hopeful that those going to college will get their Degree and return to BCPS. He wants to see young people stay and build the City up.
- He invited Board Members to come to the Mock Trials with BCCHS Students on Thursday, May 26th, at 9:00am in Judge Bomia’s Courtroom (CR353). He has heard great things from his colleagues and the people working with the BCCHS Students and is looking forward to this event.

Secretary Patty Poole-Gray shared the following comments:

- She was also impressed with the presentations this evening and noted was the Board Member who inquired about why we have two different Communications Company working with us. She added she is excited for the District to bring Communications in-house in the future.
- She was about 2 weeks late for Teacher Appreciation, but did take a day off last week and went to NWMS and BC STEM to take lunch to them.
- She attended the Sugar and Spice Dedication Groundbreaking yesterday.

President Catherine LaValley shared the following comments:

- It been a very busy 2 weeks honoring our outstanding students.
- She attended The KCC Pinning Ceremony for EMTS and Medical First Responders and it was really exciting that there were eight (8) BCCHS Students who received their pins.
- This year the BCCHS Career Academy is graduating their first class of 4-Year Students, what a proud moment.
- She attended and enjoyed the Career Academy Freshmen Declaration Day when the Freshmen Class decide on their career path for the next three years. The event was sponsored by the Battle Creek Rotary Club and featured an inspirational speaker and 14-Year old DJ.
- She attended the BCPS District Music Showcase on May 12th and it was an outstanding event showcasing 4th Graders to High School Seniors.
- She too attended the Senior Honor Program Trustee McClenney mentioned on May 19th at the McQuiston. There were a lot of awards given to Seniors and she was proud to hear of their accomplishments.
- Juneteenth Family Day Celebration begins Friday evening June 17th and concludes on Saturday, June 18th. It will be an in-person Family Day Celebration at Claude Evans Park.

Treasurer Charlie Fulbright shared the WK Prep Graduation is this Thursday, May 26th at 6:00pm in the WK Auditorium.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 8:07pm.

Submitted by
Patti Worden

Minutes Approved: June 27, 2022


Patty Poole-Gray
Board Secretary