

**BATTLE CREEK BOARD OF EDUCATION
REGULAR MEETING
April 16, 2012
7:00 p.m.
Northwestern Middle School**

PRESENT - BOARD OF EDUCATION

Karen Evans
William Burton
Susan Buckley
Todd Stagner
Steve Hoelscher
Scott Cubberly

Present – Administration

Dr. Linda Hicks – Superintendent
Dr. Jeffrey Greene – Resource Development Coordinator
Deborah Gregory – Executive Director of Financial Services
Robert Harberts – Interim Director of Human Resources
Dianne Hatley – Personnel Manager
Tim Scott – Assistant Director of Facilities & Operations

MINUTES

The meeting was called to order by President Evans at 7:00 p.m. All board members were present except Art McClenney. Approximately 60 citizens and staff were in attendance.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Item V. A was amended to read March 29. Item VI “Closed Session” was removed from the agenda.

The agenda was unanimously approved as amended.

Motion approved 6 – 0

REPORTS

Introduction of New Football Coach

Michael VanHoven, Athletic Director, introduced the new Head Varsity Football Coach Lorin Granger. Mr. Granger has coached for ten years with the Battle Creek Public Schools. Mr. VanHoven described Mr. Granger as the unanimous leader throughout

the interview process and welcomed him to the Battle Creek Public Schools. Mr. Granger introduced his family and proclaimed his pride in being a Bearcat. He thanked board members for the opportunity to return the football program to its previous glory and lead the program in the direction it needs to go.

Financial Report

Deborah Gregory, Executive Director of Financial Services, reported on Governor Snyder's 2012-2013 budget. The House version includes an increase of \$33.3 million in state aid. Additional changes include an increase to 8 count days per school year, an increase in vocational education, and technology infrastructure grant.

Board Committees

Finance: Todd Stager reported that the Finance Committee has begun the RFP for Transportation process in accordance with best practices to get additional funding from the state.

Student Achievement: Steve Hoelscher reported that a presentation was given outlining what alternative education would look like located in the high school. Additional information will be provided in subsequent meetings.

Public Relations: William Burton reported that the committee discussed short-term and long-term strategies. Accomplishments included doubling the number of high school students that applied to college and scholarships. Committee members concur that this increase is a direct result of the leadership provided by Dr. Hicks and her desire to create a college going culture.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Barb Giolombardo, BCPS teacher, expressed concern about the hard cap for insurance. She distributed a handout that details the hardship created by the hard cap for new teachers. The end result was an annual salary of \$10,000. She urged board members to think of the future impact prior to making decisions regarding insurance.

Sandy Brunner, BCES president, expressed concern regarding the possible reduction two secretaries. She detailed the many duties of a building secretary and urged board members to consider the impact on other staff if secretaries are reduced.

Amy Cherry, OEC director, reported an increase in attendees at the OEC. She thanked board members for their support and urged them to recognize what an asset the OEC is to the District.

CONSENT AGENDA

Minutes of the regular and special meetings of March 29, 2012, and Special meeting of April 9, 2012.

Bills for the month of March 2012

Personnel Changes

Appointment:

Nneka Daniels was appointed as a temporary principal effective February 21, 2012.

New Hires:

Natalie Bush has been hired as an HR Administrative Assistant effective April 9, 2012. **Tenesha Graham** was hired as a cook effective March 12, 2012.

Resignation:

Scott Millin, Grade Principal at Battle Creek Central High School, resigned effective June 30, 2012.

Retirements:

Mary Johnson is retiring as an Early Childhood Teacher effective June 30, 2012. **Andrew Swift** is retiring as a school bus driver effective August 2012.

Termination:

Randy Morgan, 2nd shift custodian, was terminated effective March 28, 2012.

Food Service (Chartwells) – Cost of Meals

CISD Budget Resolution

Moved by Mr. Burton, supported by Ms. Buckley, to approve the consent agenda items as presented.

Motion approved 6 – 0

NEW BUSINESS

Administrator Layoffs

Robert Harberts, Interim Director of Human Resources, presented a resolution for approval to layoff/nonrenew three administrators and three professionals due to the

district's financial emergency. Employees included: Tim Allen, Terris Todd, Chris Lapekas, Tina Powell, Nichole Greene, and Susan Lampas.

Moved by Ms. Buckley, supported by Mr. Hoelscher, to approve the resolution as presented with amendment to the location of the meeting.

Motion approved 6 – 0

First Reading Anti-Bully Policy

Robert Harberts, Interim Director of Human Resources, presented the Anti-Bully policy for a first reading. At a previous meeting Board members requested language that covered students to and from home and school or school sponsored activities. The district attorney stated that is not required by law but the board has the right to include that language. This language was included on page 3 of the draft policy.

Consideration to Approve 2012-2013 Budget Reductions

Superintendent Hicks presented 2012-2013 budget reductions for approval.

Moved by Dr. Stagner, supported by Ms. Buckley, to approve the 2012-2013 budget reductions as presented.

Motion approved 6 – 0

Consideration to Approve Field House Tuck Pointing

Tim Scott, Director of Facilities & Operations, presented field house tuck pointing for approval. Tuck pointing is necessary on the entire Fieldhouse because of water damage. The administration is recommending the bid be awarded to Bornor Restoration Inc. in the amount of \$289,288 from the Building & Site fund.

Moved by Dr. Stagner, supported by Ms. Buckley, the Fieldhouse tuck pointing bid be awarded to Bornor Restoration Inc. in the amount of \$289,288 from the Building & Site fund.

Motion approved 6 – 0

SUPERINTENDENT COMMENTS

Superintendent Hicks commented on:

- Think Big Day – Carson Scholar’s 10th Anniversary will be celebrated this week with special events each day including Think Big Day, Future So Bright Day, reading to elementary students about Dr. Carson, Inspiration Day, and College Bound Day.
- Justin Hinkley – Superintendent Hicks congratulated Justin Hinkley on his award from the Associated Press for his news release about educating the whole child.
- Forensics – Superintendent Hicks congratulated high school forensics students Dominique Mann, Bonnie Smith, Ethan Fletcher, Caitlyn Cubberly, Stone, and Kalian Jankowski for winning 3rd place in Region Class A competition.
- Diversity Initiative – Superintendent Hicks acknowledged the Enquirer article that covered school interventionists to help students prepare for the future.
- MASB – Board members were acknowledged for their MASB Standard of Excellence Award. President Evans received the Master Diamond Award. Board members were praised for their exemplary commitment to team development.

BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS

Todd Stagner congratulated Scott Cubberly for his expedited certification and Karen for her Master Diamond Award.

Scott Cubberly thanked staff, parents, and students that participated in the PTA Reflections Program. He acknowledged the outstanding work of the students and Barry Linscott.

President Evans thanked Northwestern Middle School staff for hosting the Reflections program and Board meeting. She congratulated Justin Hinkley on his Associated Press Award. She reminded those in attendance of the 25 year reception, OEC Trail race, Carson Scholars reception, College Bound Day, and Hall of Fame dinner.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 7:53 p.m.