

**BATTLE CREEK BOARD OF EDUCATION
REGULAR MEETING
April 25, 2015
9:00 a.m.
Coburn Elementary School**

PRESENT - BOARD OF EDUCATION

Scott Cubberly
Karen Evans
Catherine LaValley
Kellie Thomas
Todd Stagner

Members Absent

Art McClenney, Nathan Grajek

MINUTES

Meeting called to order at 9:00 a.m. by Todd Stagner. There were approximately 9 citizens and staff was in attendance.

Approval of Agenda/Consideration of Additions and Deletions

A motion was made by Karen Evans to accept the agenda. The motion was supported by Catherine LaValley.

Motion approved 5-0

Public Comment

Morgan Cawley, 262 W. Goguac - Requesting that the board not close her elementary school (Coburn).

Lynette Granstaff, 7 Avenue B. - Stated her child attends Coburn and she is very pleased with the school and the sense of community.

Christina Busick, 262 W. Goguac - The fundraising by the parents and the community for the door safety boots. Why are we closing the building when parents and community supported this with money? Will the District refund the money?

Abigail Good, 232 Meachem - Please do not close her school, Coburn.

Melissa Semen, 162 Central St. - She spoke regarding when she moved to this area she had not considered Fremont. After hearing many good things in the community regarding the school, she investigated and was very happy with what she saw. Parents

helped secure funding and support for new playground equipment and Legacy Scholars Sign.

Chris Whitmore, 232 Meachem - Lives one block away, the neighborhood means a lot to him. He did not graduate high school but Coburn he did complete and the building has special memories for him. He works second shift and works in Lansing. He is concerned that they have one vehicle and will not be able to get his child back and forth from school.

Josh Farrow, 277 Oak St. - Child is a Carson Scholar. Thank you to the Board for taking the extra time to go through the buildings. Questions the amount of electrical work that needs to be done at Urbandale and that it will be more expensive than what we are aware. Also, he is concerned that more effort is being put into saving Urbandale by the District than the other buildings. He heard that Dr. Hicks called over to Urbandale with special request to clean the basement/cafeteria area before the tour.

Consideration to Approve 2014-15 Budget Amendment

President Stagner stated that due to a procedural error, we must vote on the budget amendment today. Marilyn Wieschowski presented the budget amendment and discussion occurred.

Trustee Thomas stated that the amount of benefits that we are required to pay is mandated at the state level and that the cost of MESSA insurance is increasing.

Trustee LaValley asked about the best practices funding and if it had decreased from last year. Marilyn stated that the amount has decreased from \$52 per FTE to \$50.

Trustee Evans asked about the School Improvement Grant at Dudley - what is the effect of the 1 mil loss on the budget? Marilyn stated she would need to gather more information as she did not bring that with her this morning but that the money is attached to the building not the students and we would lose the funding if Dudley were to close.

President Stagner asked if there is 1 year left on the grant and if it is spread out over three years for disbursement or is it a sum total of 1 mil for three years and can be used in one shot. Again Marilyn stated she would need to provide us additional information.

Secretary Cubberly requested a report on expenditures for the grant since implementation by year and projected expenditures in the coming year.

Trustee LaValley requested explanation regarding the loss of Special Education reimbursement from the CISD. Marilyn stated that since 1999 CISD has been providing 85 % reimbursement and they now are facing budget issues as well and are planning

on reimbursing only 55%. Additionally, they will pay for 10 mandated aids and additional aids will be the burden of the District. Loss of funding is \$624,000 which could necessitate cutting 10 Special Education Teachers. The CISD would have to request a special mileage in order to overcome the loss.

A motion made by Catherine LaValley to approve the 2014-15 Budget Amendment. It was supported by Kellie Thomas.

Motion passed 5-0

Building Walk-Throughs

Catherine LaValley made a motion to begin walk through of elementary buildings.

Motion supported by Kellie Thomas

Motion passed 5-0

Karen Evans made a motion at 10:17 am. to recess for travel time to AJ Kellogg.

Motion supported by Kellie Thomas.

Motion passed 5-0

Karen Evans made a motion at 10:23 a.m. to begin tour of Ann J Kellogg.

Motion supported by Catherine LaValley.

Motion passed 5-0

Karen Evans made a motion at 10:58 a.m. to recess for travel time to Dudley.

Motion supported by Catherine LaValley.

Motion passed 5-0

Catherine LaValley made a motion at 11:07 a.m. to begin tour of Dudley

Motion supported by Karen Evans.

Motion passed 5-0

Catherine LaValley made a motion at 11:23 a.m. to recess for travel to Lamora.

Motion supported by Karen Evans.

Motion passed 5-0

Catherine LaValley made a motion at 11:35 a.m. to begin tour of Lamora.

Motion supported by Karen Evans.

Motion passed 5-0

Karen Evans made a motion at 11:52 a.m. to recess for travel to Urbandale.

Motion supported by Catherine LaValley.

Motion passed 5-0

Catherine LaValley made a motion at 12:03 p.m. to begin tour of Urbandale.

Motion supported by Karen Evans

Motion passed 5-0

Kellie Thomas made a motion at 12:26 p.m. to recess for travel to Fremont.
Motion supported Catherine LaValley.

Motion passed 5-0

Karen Evans made a motion at 12:43 p.m. to begin tour of Fremont.
Motion supported by Kellie Thomas

Motion passed 5-0

A motion was made at 1 p.m. to recess for travel to Verona.
Motion supported by Kellie Thomas.

Motion passed 5-0

Kellie Thomas made a motion at 1:09 p.m. to begin tour of Verona.
Motion supported by Catherine LaValley.

Motion passed 5-0

Board Comments

Kellie Thomas says the tours have been very enlightening and helped her a lot as no video accompanied the report from the consultants.

Catherine LaValley is excited to hear the report from the Ad Hoc committee meeting with the city and county members. Can we get someone from the city to share with us the information from the GIS mapping data once we have it on all of the neighborhoods surrounding the elementary schools?

Meeting adjourned 1:43 p.m.