

**BATTLE CREEK BOARD OF EDUCATION
SPECIAL MEETING
November 18, 2013
5:30 p.m.
Galileo Room – Mathematics and Science Center**

PRESENT - BOARD OF EDUCATION

William Burton
Susan Buckley
Todd Stagner
Art McClenney (arrived late)
Scott Cubberly
Kellie Thomas
Karen Evans

Present – Administration

Dr. Linda Hicks – Superintendent
Cheryl Johnson – Assistant Superintendent of Human Resources
Deborah Gregory – Executive Director of Financial Services
Dianne Hatley – Personnel Manager
Dr. Jeffrey Greene – Resource Development Coordinator
Kim Parker-DeVauld – Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum, Instruction and Assessment
Ruth Carr – Director of Student Services
Tim Scott – Manager of Facilities & Operations

MINUTES

The meeting was called to order by President Burton at 5:33 p.m. All board members were present with the exception of Mr. McClenney arriving 15 minutes late. Approximately 23 citizens were in attendance including school personnel.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

The agenda was unanimously approved as presented.

Moved by Dr. Stagner, supported by Ms. Buckley, to approve agenda as presented.

Motion approved 6 – 0

PUBLIC COMMENT

No comments were made.

REVIEW OF PROPOSED BUDGET AMENDMENTS FOR 2013-14

2012-13 used 1.5 million of the fund balance. There is a proposed \$500,000 short fall for 2013-14. We need to maintain above 15% to avoid borrowing. 84.9% is dedicated to payroll and salary. This is comparable to the State average. An estimate of \$32,761,347 for the cost of instruction. This is after 2.1million in reductions to the General fund.

Mathematics and Science Center has a quarter of a million dollar usage of the Fund Balance for 2013-14. The utilities have increased to \$298,000 because of having two locations open and construction at the new location. If we sell the other building this amount will decrease. Possible building sale or lease deals will be brought to the F&P Committee Meetings for further discussion. President Burton requested a breakdown of the old utility bills versus the new ones so that they can be reviewed.

The estimated year end Food Service Fund Balance is \$669,187 using \$140,000 to purchase updated kitchen equipment at several locations around the district.

The Building and Site Fund is expected to end 2013-14 with 1.4 million dollars with \$100,000 being transferred to the Mathematics and Science Center's reserve.

SUMMER SCHOOL REPORTS

Summer School reports show a total of 477 students attended Bearcat Summer Camp, 37 students attended Verona's Summer Achievers, and 27 students attended the Horizons program through KCC, 158 students attended the 21st Century program with a total of 699 students enrolled in a BCPS Summer Program.

Bearcat Camp project based learning went down to two projects which were aligned with Common Core. Having two projects instead of three allows less movement time for children allowing to build more relationships within the building and offer more structured time to practice basic skills. The students also went on fields trips to: Build A Bear, Binder Park Zoo, Jungle Joe's, Kalamazoo Valley Museum, Putt Putt Golfing, Chuck E Cheese, the Air Zoo and more. African American and Hispanic families are on the rise and attendance overall was good. There was an increase with older students from 4-5 grades to attend this year.

Verona Summer Achievers was a first year program with 37 students enrolled and seemed to be successful.

Horizons Summer School is just for students in Kindergarten or 1st Grade. There were 48% Kindergarten participation and 52% percent from 1st Grade.

The High School Recovery Program had 76 credits earned with 9th Grade Academy having 39.5 of those credits. This is a 6-week program with service learning.

President Burton has requested a comparison of what the demographics are currently versus the demographics of who attended the programs.

The students were surveyed with majority stating that they would like to continue to attend. The parents were surveyed as well with overall good comments. This year's Parent's Night had double the attendance compared to last year.

PRIORITY SCHOOL REPORT: VERONA

There are currently 362 students at Verona elementary with 60% being boys and 40% girls. There are 15 classroom teachers. Verona has had a 25% increase on students' MEAP scores. There has been a 40% decrease in discipline referrals in 2013-14 this far. There is a 15% increase in the number of students scoring proficient in reading and math meeting target RIT scores as measured by MAP. 41 students were tested total. Verona is looking to add classroom management strategies such as: common planning, collaboration time, grade level instructional blocks etc. Verona will continue to work on aligning objectives consistent to the use of equitable participation protocols and classroom management procedures. Also, Verona will utilize the ISD and work with Dr. Leah Van Belle who uses a coaching model for support. There is a need to dig deeper into data so that all students' needs can be met.

The Board has requested that this information be made available electronically in the future. They would also like information on if we are meeting State Standards as well as if we are improving with supporting evidence showing results.

PRIORITY SCHOOLS REPORT: DUDLEY STEM

Reward, Focus and Priority are the three State designations. Dudley ranked at the 3rd percentile of schools in TTB ranking with reading being the lowest. Priority Schools must submit a Redesign Plan with eleven indicators from the following list:

- Principal replacement and build leadership capacity
- Educator and Administrator Evaluation
- Reward and Removal process
- Qualities of professional learning
- Recruitment, Assignment and Retention of staff
- Process for choosing and instructional program and qualities of that program
- Use of individual student data
- Time for core subjects, Enrichment and professional learning
- Family and Community Engagement
- Operational Flexibility
- External Technical support

Dudley STEM's plan is to implement and guarantee curriculum offering opportunity to learn. They must first identify key learning content that will offer a high performance culture climate where kids feel safe secure and ready to learn. Parent involvement requires home school partnership and engages parents in academic growth. Extending the school year for targeted students will also benefit these students. There is a need to offer enrichment for high performing students as well.

Parents are key to the success and most don't know what to do. Dudley will offer parent workshops to assist with their needs.

Ancillary activities define teacher competencies for STEM instruction. Dudley would like to implement a district wide level of STEM certification to teachers. Dudley STEM needs to modify the lay-off and recall language because these teachers were hand selected for the STEM program but there should be no guarantee if these teachers do not perform as needed. Teachers are also expected to know all subjects. Professional Development is intentional for cross training of all subjects so that teachers feel comfortable teaching all subjects.

AESOP TECHNOLOGY AGREEMENT

The AESOP Technology Agreement is a software program that is used to obtain substitute teachers within the district. The fee for 2013-14 is \$7,890.00.

SUPERINTENDENT COMMENTS

Superintendent Hicks thanked the following people for their support:

- Dr. Maria Scott and Mr. Luke Perry for the use of the Mathematics and Science Center for the November Board Meeting.
- Robin?? for attending the meeting and her work within the district.
- Dereck Mitchell from PSI for attending the Board Meeting.

BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS

No comments from the Board.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 7:05 p.m.