

REGULAR MEETING

A Regular meeting of the Benzie County Central Board of Education was held Monday, January 8, 2024, in the Board of Education Conference Room.

President Childs called the meeting to order at 7:02 p.m.

Members Present: Mr. Childs, Mr. Barnard, Mr. Smith, Mr. Gray, Mr. Noffsinger, Mrs. Gillison, Ms. Cota Hill, Jessica Whaley (non-voting member)

Members Absent: NONE

23-24-072 It was moved by Mr. Smith and supported by Mr. Noffsinger to approve the agenda as presented.

Ayes: 7

Nays: 0

Motion Carried

Opening Statement:

We are a team. We leave our personal opinions at the door and we are bound by Policy 2302 to faithfully discharge the office of a board member and keep in mind our primary concern is the educational welfare of students focusing on governance and fiduciary obligations of the district including duties of loyalty and care, placing the District's interests above the Board member's personal interests.

Board of Education President, Brian Childs, introduced Shannon Gillison as our new Board of Education Secretary.

23-24-073 It was moved by Mr. Gray and supported by Mrs. Gillison to approve Consent Grouping items as presented.

A. Minutes: December 11, 2023

B. Business: General Fund Bills – \$692,937.38

C. Support Staff Appointments:

- Kylie Jensen – Middle School Competitive Cheer Coach
- Candice Swander – Middle School Softball Coach
- Kathryn Hohfeldt – 2nd Grade – Homestead Hills Elementary
- Butch Adkins – 7th Grade Girls Basketball Coach

D. Staff Assignment Changes:

- Rebecca Kik- Adding Elementary Counseling Support- Effective February 5, 2024

E. Leave of Absence:

- NONE

F. Recommendation for Tenure:

- NONE

G. Recommendation for Termination:

- NONE

H. Contract Updates:

- NONE

Ayes: 7

Nays: 0

Motion Carried

District Impact Team Update: Board of Education Trustee, Matt Smith reported the following: There has been only one DIT meeting since our last board meeting. That occurred on December 12. Regular weekly meetings will resume tomorrow.

At the December 12 meeting, we did a TCR Tuning Protocol. Regular meetings with teachers are up from last year. Their goals for 2023 are based around consistency, collaboration, and growth. For consistency, that means meet regular as a team and have consistent groupings week to week. They also hope to transition from a group that meets to a team that collaborates around common goals. With growth, the plan is to focus on student learning and to collaborate around data to make decisions and discuss professional practices.

There was also an ISSN update, which revolved around an Unexpected Behavior and Consequence Chart. They want to have a tiered response to behavior and are working to refine the chart and merging existing documents.

Student Council Report: Student Council Board of Education Representative, Jessica Whaley shared that the holiday activities we are success, especially Principal Taylor's Karaoke. Snowcoming will take place on February 10, 2024.

Administration Report:

A. NMSLA – Superintendent Erfourth shared the following: The next meeting will be on February 14.

B. Betsie Valley Elementary Update – Principal, Sharyl Corey – Mrs. Corey touched on the following:

- Many building updates and renovations
- Gingerbread House building
- Holiday Hoopla
- Interlochen Arts Academy presenting “*Stellaluna*”
- Constructing volcanoes
- Santa & Mrs. Claus visit
- Healthy Heroes
- The Leader in Me
- Scholar Criteria for Success
- Responsibility Centered Discipline
- Restorative Practice
- Choices Think Sheet

C. Resignations:

- Robbin Moore – Early Childhood Assistant Teacher – Lake Ann Elementary – Effective December 15, 2023
- Jill Bradford – Secondary Special Education Teacher

D. Retirements:

- NONE

Board of Education/Committee Reports –

A. Buildings and Grounds Committee –

1. **Bond Project Updates –**President, Brian Childs shared the following update: New doors were installed at the high school and Betsie Valley Elementary doors got new aluminum frames. Cabinets arrived for Homestead Hills Elementary and high school kitchen. A few cabinets had to be reordered for incorrect size. Topline was in to complete some electrical projects including adding power for the pottery wheels in the art room. The gym floor was screened and resealed. We are waiting on door card swipes and a few minor punch list items. We are also working through color selection for the transportation building and finalizing contracts.
2. **Construction Update –** Board of Education Treasurer, Scott Gray – No Update. All updates were shared in the Bond Updates.
3. **Building and Grounds Modifications Request –**
 1. **NONE**

B. Policy Committee –

1. **NONE**

C. Finance Committee –Board of Education Vice-President, Jason Barnard and Board of Education Treasurer, Scott Gray – No Update.

D. Educational Foundation – Board of Education Trustee Lori-Cota – Ms. Cota Hill shared that the next meeting will be on January 10.

E. Liaison/Curriculum –Board of Education Trustee Lori Cota Hill – No Update.

F. Negotiations – Superintendent Erfourth shared that there is currently no update. Executive Assistant to the Superintendent, Catina Crossman, will email the Board of Education on their upcoming negotiation committee assignments.

Audience Participation (Agenda Items Only) –

Bill Kennis, 962 Michigan Ave, Frankfort took the podium. Bill spoke on behalf of the Crystal Lake Elementary and the Benzie Wellness and Aquatic Center and the potential purchase of the Crystal Lake Elementary property. Bill began by thanking the Board of Education and the Superintendent for their continued efforts. Mr. Kennis compared our two representing attorneys to that of *The Zax* by Dr. Seuss. He shared that the BWAC was just trying to do something positive for the community. He suggests working together to “get there” and take a “leap of faith”.

Discussion Topics:

- 1. Sale of Bus Garage – Superintendent Erfourth shared that we have an offer that has been reviewed by our attorney and signed off by the buyer. The offer is for the garage parcel and the vacant lot next door. Total cost of sale is \$150,000 and seller will pay closing costs. The sale would close after Sept 1, 2024.**

Action Topics:

23-24-074 It was moved by Mr. Gray and supported by Mr. Noffsinger to approve to enter the Purchase Agreement for Sale of Bus Garage; pages 1-6, removing addendum C, and adding provisions for \$1.00 per month rental agreement until Bus Garage completion.

Ayes: 7

Nays: 0

Motion Carried

23-24-075 It was moved by Mr. Gray and supported by Mr. Noffsinger to table to Accept the *90-day \$5,000.00 deposit and inspection timeline for the Benzie Wellness and Aquatic Center* for 30 days.

Ayes: 7

Nays: 0

Motion Carried

Audience Participation (Open Topics): – NONE

Board Communication:

- 1. Board of Education Retreat Discussion – January 21 – 9 AM-12 PM**
Superintendent Erfourth shared that Director of Finance, Justin Weston will present in beginning strategic planning on the budget.
Trustee, Chris Noffsinger added that we need to put some focus on enrollment and attracting students to our district. President, Brian Childs asked that the Board of Education forward any agenda topics and or concerns to him.

Announcements:

- January 15 – No School
- January 17 – Board of Education Workshop 5:30 PM – 7:30PM
- January 19 – End of 2nd Quarter/1st Semester
- January 21 – Board of Education Retreat 9:00 AM-12:00 PM
- January 22 – 2nd Semester begins
- January 26 – Early Release
- February 10 – Snowcoming

23-24-076 It was moved by Mr. Noffsinger and supported by Mr. Gray to adjourn the regular meeting 7:46 pm.

Ayes: 7

Nays: 0

Motion Carried

Secretary, Board of Education

Please note that January 8, 2024 Regular Board Minutes are subject for approval on February 12, 2024.

Respectfully Submitted,

Catina M. Crossman

Executive Assistant to the Superintendent

Board of Education Administrative Assistant

Pupil Accounting Specialist

Director of Communications

Benzie County Central Schools

Go Huskies!

Have a Husky New Year!

