

BENZIE COUNTY CENTRAL SCHOOLS



BOARD OF EDUCATION
Monday, May 11, 2026 – Regular Meeting

AGENDA

- I. Pledge of Allegiance
- II. Approval of Agenda
- III. 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.
- IV. Consent Grouping
The Board has asked that certain items be grouped together and dealt with in a single motion for efficiency. A board member may ask that any listed item be considered separately.
 - A. Minutes
 1. April 13, 2026 Regular
 - B. Business – General Fund Bills - \$561,059.03
 - C. Support Staff Appointments
 1. Saturnrina Newburn – Secondary Math Teacher – 2026/27
 2. Morgan Zywicki – Secondary Physical Education and Health 2026/27 – Middle School 2026/27
 3. Kaitlyn Pluimer – Special Education – Betsie Valley Elementary 2026/27
 - D. Staff Assignment Changes
 1. Jeanne Pettengill – 3rd Grade Betsie Valley Elementary to Middle School English – Effective 2026/27
 - E. Leave of Absence
 1. NONE
 - F. Recommendation for Tenure
 1. Angela Norvell – Lake Ann Elementary
 - G. Recommendation for Termination following Probationary Period
 1. NONE
 - H. Recommendation for Termination
 1. NONE
 - I. Contract Updates
 1. NONE
- V. District Impact Team Update – Board of Education Trustee, Matt Smith -
- VI. Student Council Report – Student Council Board of Education Representative, Piper Barnard –
- VII. Administration Report
 - A. NMSLA – Superintendent Erfourth
 - B. Last Day of School - pending weather closures, 75% attendance, and legislation
 - C. Roadmaster Driving School, LLC Annual Renewal
 - D. Open Enrollment Policy
 - E. Northwest Education Services – 2026/27 General Fund Operating Budget
 - F. Sinking Fund Ballot Language

- G. Headlee Override Ballot
- H. E-Rate Contracts
- I. Sinking Fund Update – Director of Operations, Mike Zielinski
- J. Middle School Handbook Update – Principal, Alex Byland
- K. High School Handbook Update – Principal, Cheryl Smith
- L. Benzie Academy Handbook Update – Principal, Cheryl Smith & Elaine Taghon
- M. Resignations
 - 1. Carla Gipson Van Farowe – Middle School Teacher – Effective April 21, 2026
 - 2. Isabella Barton – 6.5 Paraprofessional – Middle School – Effective May 8, 2026
 - 3. Eric Perez – 3rd Grade Teacher- Lake Ann Elementary – June 10, 2026
- N. Retirements
 - 1. Steve Cox – Special Education Teacher – Betsie Valley Elementary – Effective June 10, 2026
 - 4. Susan Dameron – Kindergarten Teacher – Homestead Hills Elementary – Effective June 30, 2026
 - 5. Maria Hathaway – 6.5 Paraprofessional – Betsie Valley Elementary – Effective June 10, 2026
 - 6. Joseph Trudeau – Math Teacher – High School – Effective June 10, 2026
- VIII. Board of Education/Committee Reports
 - A. Building and Grounds Committee
 - 1. Sinking Project Updates – Twin Bay Contract
 - 2. Building and Grounds Modifications
 - 1. NONE
 - B. Policy Committee
 - 1. Open Enrollment Policy
 - 2. Cell Phone Policy *Student Use of Wireless Communications Devices Policy* -Thrun Board Policy 5209
 - C. Finance Committee – Gillison
 - D. Parent Advisory Council - Campana
 - E. Liaison – Kempton
 - F. Ad Hoc – Campana/Egeler
 - G. Negotiations –Erfourth
- IX. Audience Participation (Agenda Items Only)
- X. Discussion Topics
 - 1. Current District Enrollment Summary Review by year and building and Exit Out v. Transfer In – Executive Assistant to the Superintendent/Pupil Accounting Specialist, Catina Crossman
- XI. Action Topics
 - A. Administrative Appointments
 - 1. NONE
 - B. Approval of Elementary Handbook as presented on 4.13.2026
 - C. Approval of Last Day of School
 - D. Approval of Roadmaster Driving School, LLC Annual Renewal
 - E. Approval of Open Enrollment Policy
 - F. Approval of Northwest Education – 2026/27 General Fund Operating Budget
 - G. Approval of Sinking Fund Ballot Language
 - H. Approval of Headlee Override
 - I. Approval of E-Rate Contract
 - J. Approval of Twin Bay Contract
- XII. Audience Participation (Open Topics)
- XIII. Board Communication

XIV. Announcement

- 1. May 14 – Spring Band Concert – 7:00 PM**
- 2. May 21 – Seniors Last Day of School**
- 3. May 22 – Early Release**
- 4. May 25 – No School – Memorial Day**
- 5. May 28 – Senior Awards Night**
- 6. May 31 – Commencement – 3:00 PM**
- 7. June 8 – Regular Board of Education Meeting**
- 8. June 10 – Last Day of School**
- 9. June 22 – Board of Education Meeting**
 - **Board of Education Retreat – 4:00 PM – 6:30 PM**
 - **Board of Education Budget Review – 6:30 PM – 7:00 PM**
 - **Regular Meeting 7:00 PM**

**Benzie County Central Schools is pleased to announce their 2026 TOP TEN.
Ethin Chandler (Valedictorian), Carson Case (Salutatorian), Piper Barnard, Adam Coyne, Audrey Wilhelm,
Elsa Carter, Mya Main, Dayne Gillison, Moraya Mosher, and Rowan Zickert.**

*Audience Participation: The Board will invite your comments and concerns twice during tonight's meeting. First, you may address items on tonight's agenda. A second opportunity to speak will occur later, when you may address any issue. Though it is the board's usual practice to listen without immediate comment, your concerns are noted, and you may request follow-up. To address the board, please approach the lectern and give your name and address. Please limit your comments to three minutes.

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