

REGULAR MEETING

A Regular meeting of the Benzie County Central Board of Education was held Monday, August 10, 2026 in the Board of Education Conference Room.

President Childs called the meeting to order at 7:01 pm.

Members Present: Mr. Childs, Mrs. Gillison, Mr. Kempton, Mrs. Campana, Mr. Egeler, Mr. Barnard, Mr. Smith (Tardy 7:09 PM)

Members Absent: Keelin Rineer (Non-voting member)

26-27-009 It was moved by Mrs. Campana and supported by Mr. Egeler to approve the agenda as presented.

Ayes: 6

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.

26-27-010 It was moved by Mrs. Campana and supported by Mr. Smith to approve Consent Grouping items as presented.

A. Minutes: July 13, 2026 Regular

B. Business: General Fund Bills – \$850,837.04

C. Support Staff Appointments:

- Christopher White – Bus Driver – Transportation Department
- Morgan Harris – Assistant GSRP Teacher – Lake Ann Elementary
- Bonita Eickenroth – 6.5 Paraprofessional – Betsie Valley Elementary
- Jenny Weisman – Student Success Facilitator – Middle School & High School
- Tamera Roeske – Math Teacher – Middle School
- Sarah Simon – Lead GSRP Teacher – Lake Ann Elementary
- Hailey Ward – One-on-One Aide – Lake Ann Elementary

D. Staff Assignment Changes:

- Madison Neddo - Lead GSRP Teacher to Assistant GSRP Teacher – Lake Ann Elementary
- Tamera Roeske - .5 Special Education Teacher Homestead
- Hills Elementary to Math Teacher Middle School

- E. Leave of Absence:
 - Kirsten Cline - Maternity Leave – August 24, 2026 through January 4, 2027
 - F. Recommendation for Tenure:
 - NONE
 - G. Recommendation for Termination following Probationary Period
 - NONE
 - H. Recommendation for Termination:
 - NONE
 - I. Contract Updates:
 - See Administration Report – Bo Hebel – Sara Iverson.
- Ayes: 6 Nays: 0 Motion Carried

District Impact Team Update: Board of Education Trustee, Greg Kempton shared the following: No Update.

Student Council Report: Student Council Board of Education Representative, Keelin Rineer – No Update.

Administration Report:

- A. NMSLA – Superintendent Erfourth shared the following: NMSLA was cancelled for today.
- B. Superintendent Erfourth Goals - Superintendent Erfourth shared her focus areas for this year: Work will continue on regularly reviewing and using data to make decisions including a plan for sharing data on strategic plan goals, goal setting and feedback to staff, supporting tier 1 instruction through Teacher Clarity work, increasing communication and engagement with families, monitoring constituent feedback around the District feeling safe and inclusive, and ensuring fiscal responsibility with budgeting process.

C. Resignations:

- Stephanie Campbell – Lake Ann Elementary 1st Grade
- Jenny Weisman – High School – 6.5 Paraprofessional

D. Retirements:

- **NONE**

Board of Education/Committee Reports –

A. Buildings and Grounds Committee

- 1. Sinking Fund Projects/ Construction Update:** Superintendent Erfourth shared that there has been Lots of activity at Betsie Valley. Bathrooms are almost complete. Flooring is complete. Lockers are almost done. Kitchen flooring is complete and freezer has been installed. Other equipment is going in and next week they will complete connections. The canopy materials have arrived and they plan to complete the roof and pillars this week. The new windows have arrived at Twin Bay and abatement and installation will start on Aug 10. Locker work will continue next week at MS/HS/LA. Brainard stated they have about 2 days' worth of work left. The sidewalk concrete at the bus garage was replaced under the warranty. Chris Kuhl said he has told Scheppers to replace all concrete at the bus garage. Concrete has also been replaced by the student entrance near the weight room.
 - 2. Building and Grounds Modifications – NONE**
- B. Policy Committee – Superintendent Erfourth – Executive Assistant to the Superintendent, Catina Crossman** shared that since the information has been shared regarding the NEW Michigan Law REQUIRING schools to limit student use of electronic devices during the school day, the feedback has been positive.
- C. Finance Committee –Board of Education Treasurer, Shannon Gillison–** Shannon shared that there was no update. Director of Finance, Danielle Banasiak shared that they were finalizing the audit and should be done soon.
- D. Parent Advisory Council – Board of Education Trustee, Sue Campana – Sue** shared that they were hoping to plan meeting before school starts.
- E. Liaison – Board of Education Trustee, Dave Egeler – Dave** shared that there was no update.
- F. Ad Hoc – Campana/Egeler – No Update.**
- G. Negotiations – Erfourth – Superintendent Erfourth** shared that a Tentative Transportation Agreement had been reached. This included salary increases along with language changes clarifying full time and sub driver status.

Discussion Topics:

- A. Current District Enrollment Summary Review – Exit Out v. Transfer In – Executive Assistant to the Superintendent/Pupil Accounting Specialist, Catina Crossman – Catina shared that there was no update.**
- B. Operational Millage and Sinking Fund Millage Discussion – Superintendent Erfourth shared three (3) Thrun Resolutions with the Board of Education should they choose to move forward on the November 2026 ballot: (1) Benzie County Central School Operating Millage Proposal as presented on August 4. (2) The Benzie County Central Schools Sinking Fund Millage Proposal as presented on August 4 at .70 mill, and (3) The Benzie County Central Schools Sinking Fund Millage Proposal at .50 mill. There were varying opinions around bringing only Operational vs. bringing Operational and Sinking Fund back. Operational Millage is needed in order to receive the full State funding (18 mills) 59 cover day to day expenses including staff salaries, utilities, and materials. Homestead properties are exempted from Operating Millage tax. Discussion around further reducing the Sinking Fund millage (from current rate of .89 to .7 which was the August proposal to .5) brought forth mixed feelings with the biggest reason being that the needs will not go away. All agreed that educating voters about school funding and the ballot proposals was a need.**

Action Topics:

26-27-011 It was moved by Mr. Barnard and supported by Mrs. Campana to approve the Early Graduation Requests for both Hailey Brinkman and Katelyn Brinkman

Ayes: 7

Nays: 0

Motion Carried

26-27-012 It was moved by Mr. Smith and supported by Mr. Barnard to approve the Operational Millage Proposal for the November Ballot.

Ayes:7

Nays: 0

Motion Carried

26-27-013 It was moved by Mrs. Campana and supported by Mr. Gillison to approve the Sinking Fund Millage Proposal for the November Ballot at .70 mills.

Ayes:6

Nays: 1 Egeler

Motion Carried

26-27-014 It was moved by Mrs. Campana and supported by Mr. Egeler to approve the

Tentative Transportation Agreement.

Ayes:7

Nays: 0

Motion Carried

Audience Participation (Open Topics): - NONE

Board Communication: NONE

Announcements:

- **Middle School – High School – Benzie Academy Open House – August 25 – 5:00 PM -7:00 PM**
- **Elementary Open House – August 26 – 5:00 PM – 7:00 PM**
- **Betsie Valley Early Childhood Open House – August 26 – 5:00 PM -6:00 PM**
- **Lake Ann Elementary Early Childhood Open House – August 27 – 4:30 PM – 6:00 PM**
- **Homestead Hills Elementary Open House – August 28 – 4:30 PM – 6:00 PM**
- **First Day of School – August 31**
- **No School – September 4**
- **No School – September 7 – Labor Day**
- **Regular Board Meeting – September 14 – 7:00 PM**

26-27-015 It was moved by Mr. Smith and supported by Mrs. Campana to adjourn the Regular Meeting at 8:11 PM.

Ayes: 7

Nays: 0

Motion Carried

Secretary, Board of Education

Please note that August 10, 2026 Regular Board Minutes are subject for approval on September 14, 2026.

Respectfully Submitted,



Catina M. Crossman

Executive Assistant to the Superintendent

Board of Education Administrative Assistant

Schools of Choice Coordinator

Pupil Accounting Specialist

Director of Communications

Benzie County Central Schools

Go Huskies!