

when other categorical increases are taken into account. This is due to the governor's proposal taking Higher Education out of the School Aid Fund, which results in a net increase of over 500 million for PreK-12 schools. However, this budget is also predicated on the controversial 45 cent gas tax. The legislature has shown some interest in counter proposals thought that continue to raise revenue. We hope to have senate and house budgets unveiled later in April. Lansing indicates their desire to have a finalized budget by June, but this timeline looks unlikely at the current pace. There also have been some early proposals to eliminate the retention provision with the current "3rd Grade Reading Law" which are set to take place at the end of the 2019-20 school year. We plan to keep a close eye on this issue as there are major implications either way.

- B. Varsity Football Recognition –** Head Varsity football coach, Jason Katt, along with team captains, Tom Ross, Darren Childs, Joe Wade and Cody Hanson presented on behalf of the program and the season accolades. The 2018/19 season was remarkable for these student-athletes both on and off the field. The boys have been recognized by the Michigan High School Football Coaches Association as First Team 2017 Academic All-State Division 5 as well as 2018 Academic All-State Honorable Mention Division 5, with a combined GPA of 3.7, along with having earned the Michigan High School Coaches Reading Association Award. Library funds awarded were presented to Benzie Central Elementary principals. The program received additional accolades earning the 2018 Steve Spicer Memorial Team Leadership Award in recognition of Outstanding Community Leadership. This honor is only awarded to (3) schools in the state of Michigan. The boys most recently participated in the Polar Plunge for Special Olympics, hosted their "We Luv Husky Football" Valentine's Day camp for our Husky youth, as well as traveled to district elementary buildings to read to our younger students. From scoring touchdowns, to academic excellence, to community leadership, these student-athletes, this coaching staff, this program continues to shine.
- C. BA/HS SEEDS –**Kevin Kinnan – Retired Benzie Central teacher, Kevin Kinnan shared his new role in the district as the Benzie Academy/High School SEEDS advisor. SEEDS is a 501(c)3 nonprofit organization established to implement local solutions to global issues at the intersection of ecology, education, and design. Incorporated in 1999 by a handful of young graduate students studying ecological engineering and social sciences. SEEDS has always embraced the word *design* to be broadly inclusive of everything from design of engaging educational curriculum to design of methodologies for monitoring greenhouse gas emissions to the designers of buildings and trails and neighborhoods. Mr. Kinnan is pleased to be in this role, as he believes that our youth are our greatest natural resource. In the fall of 2018, SEEDS was introduced to the Benzie Academy students. The invitation was later extended to high school juniors and seniors, and then later to the sophomores. To date, there are (15) registered members with (6) of them being regular attendees. The calendar is student set, and they have dabbled in life skills, cooking, ecology, snowshoe hiking, photography workshops, video production and STEM night. SEEDS funding is federal grant dollars as a Michigan Department of Education Learning Center. Benzie Academy senior, KaLee Boorsma, took the podium and expressed her positive experience

with the program, "SEEDS has helped me get out of a rut. It is a great outlet for me as I needed something more."

- D. University of Michigan – Labs in a Box – Racquel Huddleston’s Classroom-** The video *This is Michigan – Examining Their Possibilities* was shared. Dr. Lyle Simmons Ph.D., University of Michigan Associate Professor of Molecular, Cellular, and Developmental Biology along with Benzie Central Alumni and University of Michigan graduate and PhD candidate, Taylor Nye visited our Biology Department here at Benzie Central in December. They brought the lab resources to us. The field of Biology and its corresponding subfields are rapidly expanding with the rise of new experimental techniques and technologies, offering a plethora of exciting job opportunities for young aspiring scientists. The lab introduced to our students educated our students on a new tool for genome editing called CRISPR-Cas, which is revolutionizing our approach to basic and medical sciences. The students were able to use the CRISPR-Cas system to change one base of DNA out of four million bases in the genome of a harmless strain of E.coli to make it resistant to a particular antibiotic. The social implications of genome editing were also discussed, so that the students were aware of the intersection between biology, ethics, policy, and philosophy. They were joined by a media team from the University of Michigan News to film, in which they used for their "Stories of Our State" segment to highlight the relationship between U of M and local Michigan Communities such as ours.
- E. Budget Amendment – Michele Murray – 2018-19 Budget Amendment #2:** Director of Finance, Michele Murray, presented the board with the recommended 2018-19 2nd Budget Amendment. Amendment was reviewed with revenue recommended to increase from \$14,838,672 to \$15,011,587 and expenditures recommended to increase from \$14,579,104 to \$14,640,030. The fund balance is now expected to end at \$1,884,388 or 12.87%.
- F. Bond Proposal Updates – Superintendent Olson** shared the May 7th, 2019 Bond Proposal Updates. The community is working hard to educate the public via many avenues, Yes for BC kids, township meetings, community forums etc... Educational materials such as brochures, FAQ’s, posters, facebook and a website page are the various tools used for resources.

Board of Education/Committee Reports

- A. Policy Committee – Amber Pomper** shared that the policy committee met to go over the changes for the First Reading Update.
- B. Buildings and Grounds Committee – The Buildings and Grounds committee,** along with Brendon Pollard from Kingscott, met to discuss the various improvements that need to be made: Digital signage on the MS/HS campus, water valve replacement, flooring at Betsie Valley Elementary, and flooring at Lake Ann Elementary as well as MS/HS cafeteria ceiling replacement. The intent going forward is to use local contractors to keep our business local and leave some sinking fund dollars on the table for future replacements/repairs that arise district wide.

Audience Participation (Agenda Items Only) – Denise Fiegel took the podium and addressed her concerns and asked questions regarding the upcoming Bond Proposal. Educational materials and bond language clarification was provided.

Discussion Topics:

Policy Update – First Reading – Superintendent Olson proposed winter 2018/19 NEOLA Policy Updates in reference to policies:

- **Bylaw 0100, Bylaw 0122, Bylaw 1031.1, Bylaw 0143.1, Bylaw 0165.6, Bylaw 0166, Bylaw 0167.1, Bylaw 1067.2, Bylaw 0167.3, Bylaw 0167.6, Policy 1422/3122/4122, Policy 1662/3362/4362, Policy 2260, Policy 5517, Policy 5517.02, Policy 2112, Policy 2261.01, Policy 2261.03, Policy 2700, Policy 3120, Policy 3120.04, Policy 3130, Policy 4162, Policy 5330, Policy 5460, Policy 5540, Policy 5610, Policy 5610.01, Policy 5611, Policy 5630.01, Policy 6325, Policy 6350, and Policy 8210. He also shared the Wellness Policy giving huge props to Lisa Purchase and Caitlin Lorenc.**

- A. Platte River Letter of Intent Submission – Thus far, the direction is positive. Benzie Senior Resources (“BSR” and “Purchaser”) is in need of larger accommodations for its business office, activity centers, boardroom, and other facilities central to the purpose of the organization. It is their understanding that the Benzie Central Board of Education (“The Board” and “Seller”) is interested in divesting the School District of the ongoing operating and maintenance expense for the Platte River Elementary School building located at 11434 Main Street, Honor, MI. 49640. The plan continues to evolve with the feasibility study in process. No agreement has yet been made.**
- B. BSN/Nike Exclusivity Agreement – BSN is a leader in Team Sports uniforms and equipment. It is a growing and reliable company with 47 years in the industry. The Athletic Department has recently made some purchases through BSN including a volleyball net system, some apparel, as well as baseballs and footballs. With each order, the Department has been happy with the service, the quality, and the competitive pricing offered by BSN. The BSN sales representative servicing our area is David Regnerus. The department’s and district’s #OneBenzie vision and goals were discussed with Mr. Regnerus, and he quickly liaised with Nike™ and Under Armour™ on the district’s behalf. Nike™ reviewed the athletic programs and accomplishments at Benzie Central and proposed an exclusivity agreement to make Benzie Central the first Nike™ sponsored school in Northern Michigan. Nike’s™ exclusivity agreement has been incorporated into the BSN SPORTS REWARDS PROGRAM. The BSN/Nike™ offer includes a commitment by BCS to purchase a new set of uniforms for the 17 Varsity teams within five years. Additionally, BCS Athletic Department would agree to each team setting up a “My Team Shop” through bsnsports.com via a BSN sales representative. Upon acceptance of the exclusivity agreement, BCS Athletic Department would receive a free Branding Package, valued at \$3000, which includes our new logo on (1) a media photo-op backdrop stretch, (2) a BCS-logo tablecloth, and (3) five light post banners. The agreement would make products available at BCS Athletic Department at deep discounts, including 40%**

off retail on the new Nike™ uniforms. BCS Athletic Department would receive a Nike™ credit of \$3000 each year during the 5-year agreement. BCS Athletic Department would receive a 3%-5% rebate each June to redeem more products. These products would not be limited to uniforms and/or athletics. It could also be used for our band, choir, art, and club departments. The five-year total estimated cost to the district for fulfilling this obligation to outfit our Varsity teams in new Nike™ uniforms is between \$20,000 and \$50,000.

Action Topics:

18-19-087 It was moved by Mrs. Cota Hill and supported by Mr. Noffsinger to approve the resignation of Heidi Schaub – Lake Ann Elementary Secretary.

The board praised Heidi and gave special thanks to her for her 17 years of service.

Ayes: 7

Nays: 0

Motion Carried

18-19-088 It was moved by Mr. Gray and supported by Mrs. Pomper to approve the resignation of Kathy Neveu – Middle School Math Teacher.

The board praised Kathy and gave special thanks for her many years of service.

They too were very appreciative of her advance notice.

Ayes: 7

Nays: 0

Motion Carried

18-19-089 It was moved by Mrs. Johnston and supported by Mrs. Brown to approve the Budget Amendment as presented.

Ayes: 7

Nays: 0

Motion Carried

18-19-090 It was moved by Mrs. Pomper and supported by Mr. Noffsinger to approve the Policy Update – First Reading.

Ayes: 7

Nays: 0

Motion Carried

18-19-091 It was moved by Mrs. Cota Hill and supported by Mrs. Johnston to approve the BSN/Nike™ Exclusivity Agreement

Ayes: 7

Nays: 0

Motion Carried

Audience Participation (Open Topics): Mary Chandler, retired Benzie Central teacher, took the podium and thanked the committee for their hard work with the upcoming Bond Proposal. After reviewing all the materials, she feels it is nicely put together as well as accurate. She was a student in one of our building when it opened in the 1950's. The facility at that time was beautiful and up to date. She believes our students today deserve modern updated and renovated facilities just as they did when she was a student here. Mary also expressed her concern over the current challenging times for students. She feels negative issues commonly start at a younger age now, and she expressed her desire to see a part-time shared counselor back in the elementary buildings.

Board Communication:

Amber Pomper shared that the Almira Township meeting was well received with an overall great response. She feels the biggest challenge to educate the public on at this

time, is the board's commitment to not levy the Sinking Fund.

Announcements:

1. March 15/16/17 – The Music Man – High School Musical
2. Wrestling team took districts, and Cody Hanson and Joe Orfe advanced to STATE. ZiAnn Boorsma and Trinity Parker competed in the first ever MHSAA sanctioned girls wrestling STATE finals in Adrian, Michigan. ZiAnn placed 4th.
3. Girls Varsity Basketball had a great season, making it to the District final competition, falling short by only one point.
4. Remembering Benzie Central Legend Eldon “Pete” Moss -Benzie Central lost a member of their Husky family and a piece of their “red and white” this past weekend. A fixture of our school family and our pillar until the very end. He touched so many and we are so fortunate for the legacy in which he left us.
[For complete obituary click here](#)

18-19-092 It was moved by Mr. Noffsinger and supported by Mrs. Brown to adjourn the regular meeting at 9:31 p.m.

Ayes: 7

Nays: 0

Motion Carried



Secretary, Board of Education