

REGULAR MEETING

A Regular meeting of the Benzie County Central Board of Education was held Monday, December 9, 2019, at Benzie Central Middle School, 9300 Homestead Rd., Benzonia, MI 49616.

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

Members Present: Mr. Childs, Mrs. Brown, Mrs. Johnston,
Mr. Gray, Mrs. Pomper, Ms. Cota Hill, Mr. Noffsinger (Remote)

Members Absent: NONE

19-20-054 It was moved by Mrs. Johnston and supported by Mrs. Pomper to approve the agenda as written.

Ayes: 7

Nays: 0

Motion Carried

19-20-055 It was moved by Mrs. Johnston and supported by Mr. Gray to approve Consent Grouping items as presented.

A. Minutes: November 13, 2019 – Special

B. Business: General Fund Bills \$1,107,872.18

Ayes: 7

Nays: 0

Motion Carried

Board Blueprint Communication:

Stephanie Johnston shared that the District Impact Team has been working on the problem solving driver and analyzing the various Blueprint surveys. Steven Best, from MiExcel, has fine-tooth combed the walk-through process. The team will work collectively to plan the next professional development day.

Student Council Report: Steven Quijas, Senior Class president/Student Council president reported that the student council has been focusing on electing their executive board, as well as their class officers. They are planning a holiday luncheon prior to Christmas break, as well as a gift raffle.

Administration Report:

- A. **NMSLA Update-** The governor and legislature appear to have come to agreement on a budget supplemental to restore some of the vetoes that were made for the approved Oct. 1st state budget. Among those is restoration of 22d - isolated district funding. We anticipate an approximately 70K addition based on this action. There is also discussion about establishing a July 1st deadline for next year's budget, though this is not finalized. There is an important bill coming out on the Michigan Merit Curriculum (MMC) that seeks to make changes to allow for more flexibility in graduation requirements. However, the most recent version of this bill does NOT contain a personal curriculum concept, something which is critical for many of our students, particularly those with special needs. We will continue to monitor this as it develops. The state is also close to allowing for

online gaming and sportsbook gaming. This bill could have a significant impact on the School Aid Fund (SAF) for the future.

- B. Marching Band Presentation – Benzie Central Band Director, Brian Parent & Dennis Ormsbee, *Orefice, Ltd.* – Benzie Central Middle/High School Principal Dave Clasen, opened by thanking the Benzie Central Band Booster members; recognizing both Michelle Herron and Phil Wysocki from Band Boosters as they were in the audience. He then introduced Band Director, Brian Parent. Brian Parent shared that there are currently 173 band students K-12. The Band continues to grow and move in a positive direction, with the marching band being a legitimate component of their program. Junior, Theo Reed, attended a week long camp at Michigan State University, reading drills, customizing music and gaining exposure to marching techniques. The Benzie Central Band Boosters have organized Mini Camps to prepare for the marching season. Mr. Parent feels that a uniform creates a point of pride for the students, district, and community. He emphasized the importance of marching uniforms to the band program, provided an overview of initial meetings with the band boosters and administration, and introduced Dennis Ormsbee, uniform consultant for *Orefice, Ltd.* to the board of education. The board was provided with a Marching Uniform “Purchase & Timeline Chart”, a detailed uniform proposal with initial cost estimates, as well as early-stage sketch examples of possible uniform designs. Mr. Ormsbee shared a brief background on *Orefice, Ltd.*, provided names of Northern Michigan schools who have used *Orefice, Ltd.* when purchasing marching uniforms, and provided an overview of the uniform planning and purchasing process, which included the estimated cost to the district to purchase marching uniforms, and a proposed timeline to have uniforms by August of 2020.**
- C. Benzie Central Middle/High School Update – Benzie Central Athletic Director, Steve Graetz – Mr. Graetz provided the board of education with a Benzie Central Athletics 2019 Recap and Updates. Fall 2019 was full of many accolades for our athletic program. Volleyball finish 4th in the NWC, Soccer finished 4th in the NWC. Coach Barker has resigned after five years with Benzie Central. Thank you Coach Barker for your years of service to the program. The position is currently open. Football finished 3-6, with a 6th place league finish. The program had (4) all-leaguers, Cody Hanson, Spencer Steeves, Seth Wilkinson, and Kyle Wilson. (4) Seniors will be graduating; (21) letterman will be returning in the fall of 2020. The program continues to grow, as there are over (30) players on each level (Varsity, Junior Varsity, and Middle School). The football program also was recognized for Academic All-State Team (placed 5th in Division 5). It is the third year in a row that they have placed as an Academic All-State Team. Cross Country finished finish 7th place out of 150 schools in Division 3 in Michigan for both our boys and girls teams. They had their first individual state champion since 2006, Freshman, Hunter Jones. Hunter was the 6th Husky Cross Country runner to finish in first place. There have been (8) total individual 1st place finishes. In addition, New Nike Uniforms have been purchased through BSN for wrestling, boys’ Basketball, and girls’ Basketball. There is a shot clock requirement for football and we are looking into the feasibility for the 2020**

season. Baseball and Softball programs are looking into purchasing and erecting new matching scoreboards; also creating a proposal to present the Board of Education in early 2020 for Middle School Baseball and Middle School Softball, as they are currently club teams. Benzie Central hosted MHSAA Regionals for Divisions 1-4 for Cross Country on the 25th of October, and will possibly be in the position to host again in 2020. Benzie Central will also be hosting MHSAA Districts for Softball in the spring of 2020. Boys Varsity Basketball Coach, Josh Crocker, has kick started an organized student section called the *Red Zone* for the upcoming Basketball seasons. Wrestling is piloting a substance testing program to assist student-athletes resisting substances.

- D. 2019-20 Budget Amendment #1 – Michele Murray – Director of Finance, Michele Murray, presented the board with the recommended 2019-20 1st Budget Amendment. Amendment was reviewed with end of year revenue expected to decrease to \$15,541,726 dropping from 2018-19 end of year revenue of \$15,975,263. End of year expenditures are expected to increase to \$15,625,837 from the 2018-19 end of year revenue of \$15,013,331. The fund balance is now expected to end 2019-20 at \$2,301,004, a decrease from \$2,409,318 in 2018-19. The fall 2019 pupil count resulted in 1,350 students.

E. Resignations –

- a) Madison Lutzke – Middle School Paraprofessional

Board of Education/Committee Reports –

Building and Grounds Committee – Scott Gray shared that the committee met prior to this evening board meeting. The committee took a snapshot of sinking fund dollars and the committee reviewed building work scopes and projects to consider for bid for summer 2020, which was provided by our Director of Maintenance, Mike Zielinski.

Audience Participation (Agenda Items Only) – NONE

Discussion Topics:

- A. Platte River Elementary – Next Steps – Superintendent Olson provided the Board of Education with a Realtor Report for Platte River Elementary from Kevin Endres, PE, Owner | Broker for Three West Commercial Real Estate and Consulting. The Broker Price Opinion contains and executive summary, a non-profit use analysis, non-profit use summary, vacant land analysis, vacant land summary, and a building sale comparables, with a conclusion and recommendation. Superintendent Olson recommends putting Platte River Elementary up for sale and also recommends that the board review for an action item in January.
- B. Bond Proposal – Timeline – Superintendent Olson provided the Board of Education a Bond Proposal Timeline for both August 2020 and November 2020. The Board of Education discussed different timelines as well as what the scope of a future bond proposal should include given the feedback they've received both informally as well as from the responses from the community survey conducted.

Action Topics:

19-20-056 It was moved by Mrs. Brown and supported by Ms. Cota Hill to approve the 2019-20 Budget Amendment #1.

Ayes: 7

Nays: 0

Motion Carried

19-20-057 It was moved by Mrs. Johnston and supported by Mr. Gray to approve the appointment of Jennifer Haveman – Transportation Dept. – Bus Driver

Ayes: 7

Nays: 0

Motion Carried

19-20-058 It was moved by Mr. Gray and supported by Mr. Noffsinger to approve the appointment of Cody VanDonkelaar – Varsity Wrestling Assistant Coach

Ayes: 7

Nays: 0

Motion Carried

19-20-059 It was moved by Ms. Cota Hill and supported by Mrs. Brown to approve the appointment of Jessica Rhodes – Betsie Valley Elementary – PM Custodian

Ayes: 7

Nays: 0

Motion Carried

19-20-060 It was moved by Mrs. Pomper and supported by Mr. Gray to approve the appointment of Deborah Highway – Paraprofessional – Benzie Central Middle School.

Ayes: 7

Nays: 0

Motion Carried

Audience Participation (Open Topics): NONE

Board Communication:

1. Mr. Gray addressed concerns over transportation for Saturday athletics, adding that it puts coaches in a bad position.
2. December 18th – 6:00 PM Superintendent Evaluation
3. Board of Education – Coffee Hours to begin in February. Paired board members contact Catina Crossman for scheduling and communications.

Announcements:

1. December 16th – Policy Committee Meeting – 6:00 PM
2. December 18th – Superintendent Evaluation – 6:00 PM
3. December 12th – Holiday Band Concert – 7:00 PM
4. December 19th – Holiday Choir Concert – 7:00 PM

19-20-061 It was moved by Mr. Gray and supported by Mr. Noffsinger to adjourn the regular meeting at 9:46 PM.

Ayes: 7

Nays: 0

Motion Carried


Secretary, Board of Education