

## REGULAR MEETING

A Regular meeting of the Benzie County Central Board of Education was held Monday, February 10, 2020, at Benzie Central Middle School, 9300 Homestead Rd., Benzonia, MI 49616.

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

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

**Members Absent:** NONE

19-20-082 It was moved by Mrs. Johnston and supported by Mr. Noffsinger to approve the agenda as written.

**Ayes:** 7                                      **Nays:** 0                                      **Motion Carried**

19-20-083 It was moved by Ms. Cota Hill and supported by Mrs. Brown to approve Consent Grouping items as presented.

**A. Minutes:** January 13, 2020 – Organizational  
January 13, 2020 - Regular

**B. Business:** General Fund Bills - \$979,434.65

**C. Support Staff Appointments:**

1. Aimee Kalisz – Middle School Track and Field Coach
2. Brandon Baesch – Varsity Boys Soccer Coach
3. Kimberlee Wenkel – Middle School Drama Director
4. Caslyn Ballard – Paraprofessional – Betsie Valley Elementary

**Ayes:** 7                                      **Nays:** 0                                      **Motion Carried**

**Board Blueprint Communication:** The District Impact Team continues to meet on the third Thursday of every month. Collectively, they have been collaborating, re-working the surveys to reap the best possible data for student instruction.

**Student Council Report:** Senior, Brooke Lautner, Student Council Board Representative was unable to attend. Sophomore, Allison Barker, spoke on her behalf. The Student Council continues to plan Snowcoming. The theme this year is Mardi Gras.

**Administration Report:**

- A. Betsie Valley Community Center Update – Deborah Frisbie – Betsie Valley Community Center** has formed a Recreation Team to build community, allowing them to speak with people about their efforts. They have received a \$5000 grant awarded from Minger Foundation to be used strictly for recreation in Manistee County. They are reaching out to Onekema, Bear Lake, and Kaleva Norman Dickson to take part in the activities. Currently, 47 kids, out of approximately 130 students at Betsie Valley are from Manistee County. The first event was held

January 31. Board Game Night. 52 adults signed in with an average of 2-3 family members. Food was provided and donated by Geno's in Thompsonville, and giveaways were donated by various community members. They have asked the community via a survey, "What can we do to strengthen the Betsie Valley Community?" The feedback was very positive. The next event will be held on February 28. The theme will be Family Outdoor Adventure, in partnership with Nordic Rocks and Crystal Mountain Community Ski Club, (both non-profits.) They will provide skis and coaches. It will be held at Betsie Valley Elementary on their trails. There will be a taco bar and hot cocoa. Each child will receive safety headlights. March 30-April 3 will be the "Stay-cation Ninja Challenge Course." They are also looking at organizing sports clinics, and arts and music events. They hope to incorporate volunteers from service clubs, such as the National Honor Society, Student Council and Local Church groups. The Betsie Valley Community Center is committed to increasing access to dental services in the region and beyond with a mobile dental van, with all equipment being stored internally in a compact and sanitary setting. In partnership with Northern Michigan Health Services, Inc. (NMHSI), they will offer full preventative dental services in the van at the elementary schools throughout northern Manistee and southern Benzie Counties. To date, there has been \$20,000-\$25,000 raised of the \$80,000, with other commitments coming.

B. FFA Forest Stewardship Proposal – Mike Jones, Benzie Central FFA Director, and Paul Gerhart – Benzie Central FFA/FFA Advisory Committee – Mike Jones spoke on the History of the Forest Management/FFA. In the past, the FFA chapter and Advisor were in charge of timber harvest activities on the four properties owned by the district.

- Benzie Central Forest – 80 acres. SW ¼, Sec 30, T26N R14W, Benzonia Twp., Benzie Co., MI.
- Benzie Central Forest - Thompsonville – 80 acres. S ½ NE ¼, Sec 27, T27N R14W, Weldon Twp., Benzie Co., MI.
- Benzie Central Forest – Copemish – 160 acres. N ½ SW ¼, W ½ SE ¼, Sec 20, T24N R13W, Cleon Twp., Manistee Co., MI.
- Benzie Central Forest – Lake Ann Elementary – 30 acres. NE ¼ SW ¼, Sec 2, T26N R13W, Inland Twp., Benzie Co., MI.

FFA Advisor Jerry Block would coordinate with Larry Reed (logger) and other loggers to set up sales and agree to terms. Revenue from harvests were split between the school general fund, Ag Program equipment/improvements, and the FFA Chapter. These past harvests were conducted several times in the 80's, 90's, and 2000's. Past purchases with timber sale money have been the original FFA/Maintenance/Athletic barn, greenhouse, welders, plasma cutter, tanks for aquaculture, and maple syrup equipment. The history of forest management and the FFA was discussed at both October and January FFA Advisory Committee Meetings. It is the wish of the Committee, Chapter, and Advisor to renew the role of the FFA Chapter as the steward of the forest properties. The Ag Program has a number of projects/equipment purchases that require funding. Older equipment is in need of repair or replacement in addition to several wish list items. The forest properties could support a number of beneficial stewardship/educational activities for the FFA and Ag Classes including: Tree

Measurement/Marking, Chainsaw safety, Stewardship Hikes/Work Bees, Firewood cutting, Tree planting, and Erosion Control/Rehab. Committee Member, Paul Gerhart, (consulting forester) scouted the four properties and came up with recommendations for all four properties in terms of harvest schedule, timeline, and expected revenue.

- C. **Baseball – Spring Break trip – Panama City Beach, Florida – Varsity Baseball Coach - Eric Johnston - Coach Johnston shared the travel arrangements, trip agenda, extra practice time and team bonding initiative behind this trip. The cost is \$625.00 per person. This amount covers food, lodging, practice facilities rental, and team “fun” entertainment. The only out of pocket expense an individual player would incur are personal purchases such as souvenirs, snacks, and additional beverages. Currently, there are (10) players and (5) coaches committed to making this trip.**
- D. **Softball – Spring Break trip – Pigeon Forge, Tennessee – Varsity Softball Coach – Scott Brautigam - Coach Brautigam shared the travel arrangements, trip agenda, extra practice time and team bonding initiative behind this trip. The cost is \$475 per person. The only out of pocket expense for each player would be spending money, and snacks for the trip home. Currently, there are (18) players HS/MS and (6) parent chaperones.**
- E. **Resignations –**
- **Ashley Steed – Middle School Special Education Paraprofessional**
  - **Deborah Highway – Middle School Paraprofessional**
  - **Leah Bowman – Betsie Valley Elementary Paraprofessional**

**Board of Education/Committee Reports –**

- A. **Policy Committee Update – 34-1 Board Policies- 2<sup>nd</sup> Reading - The Policy Committee of the BCCS School Board met on Tuesday, January 7, 2020, to review the latest policy update from NEOLA. Administration reminded the committee that Thrun would be coming out with a policy service soon and that we are interested in looking at this new, streamlined policy service with great anticipation. In the meantime, the following updates were provided from NEOLA and all are recommended for adoption.**

***Policy 1420/3220 – School Administrator and Professional Staff Evaluation:***  
Revises evaluation policies to be compliant with law, raising student growth percentage of the evaluation from 25% to 40%.

***Policies 1615, 3215, 4215, 5512, 7434 - All of these policies are related to the prohibition of tobacco products in schools. Definitions were expanded to include “vaping” materials and ensure uniform prohibition for ALL staff, students, and visitors on school grounds and at school functions.***

***Policy 2265 Child Care Center Staff and Volunteers:*** This policy is new and calls for compliance with LARA and statutes on compliance with intensive background checks for child care centers. Because we now run an early childhood program, this policy makes sense for adoption and simply puts into policy what we already do and are required to do for safety of our youngest kids.

***Policy 2628 State Aid Incentives-*** This policy relates to the “at-risk” students in our district and how the state defines what an “at-risk” student is. The updated language from the state is now included in the policy which has a direct impact on funding.

***Policy 3210 – Staff Ethics -*** This revision includes provisions from the recently approved Michigan Code of Educational Ethics from MDE. Its boilerplate language that gives further direction on what professional expectations are for our professional staff

***Policy 5230 – Late Arrival and Early Dismissal -*** This revision clarifies that we can require a photo ID when a person other than the parent/guardian comes to pick up a child from school. This is already a practice in our buildings (excepting of course when we already know and are familiar with the person as a recognized, documented emergency contact for a child).

***Policy 6800 – System of Accounting -*** This revision is to reflect the recently updated GASB 84 requirements of the Governing Accounting Standards Board regarding student and school related activity funds and reflects requirements now outlined in the Michigan Public Schools Accounting Manual.

***Policy 7300 – Disposition of Real Property -*** This language has been clarified to list options for disposition of real estate property (listing with agent, auction, bid process) as well as to clarify language regarding boards being required to have final approval over a sale. Good reminders given our tasks ahead.

***Policy 7440.03 Small Unmanned Aircraft Systems -*** This is a new policy to prohibit use of unmanned aircraft (drones) except with approval from the district (superintendent). This is a rapidly growing area and gives us some options to control their use now and in the future. Don't be surprised to see further clarification on this one in the future.

***Policy 8400 – School Safety Information -*** This revision includes a revised threat assessment protocol. In practice, our work with our school liaison officer as well as with our county emergency management directed School Safety Group (SSG) has put us in strong compliance with this policy as updated.

***Policy 8462 – Student Abuse and Neglect-*** This revision simply clarifies who “mandated reporters” are in accordance with statute so as to broadly encompass school staff. Previously it had referred only to “professional staff” which was not seen as sufficiently inclusive. FIA verbiage changed to DHHS.

## Audience Participation (Agenda Items Only) –NONE

### Discussion Topics:

- A. **Bond Proposal – Next Steps - Superintendent Olson provided the Board of Education a Bond Proposal Timeline for both August 2020 and November 2020. Superintendent Olson will provide the Board of Education with alternative plans within the next couple of weeks, and will plan for a committee meeting the first week in March. It is Superintendent Olson’s recommendation for a Bond Proposal action item at the regularly scheduled board of education meeting in March.**

### Action Topics:

**19-20-084 It was moved by Mrs. Brown and supported by Mrs. Johnston to approve the appointment of Amber Wilson – Early Childhood Coordinator.**

**Ayes: 7**

**Nays: 0**

**Motion Carried**

**19-20-085 It was moved by Ms. Cota Hill and supported by Mrs. Johnston to approve the appointment of Leah Bowman - .4 Physical Education Teacher – Betsie Valley Elementary/ .6 Substitute Teacher.**

**Ayes: 7**

**Nays: 0**

**Motion Carried**

**19-20-086 It was moved by Mr. Gray and supported by Mrs. Pomper to approve the Baseball Spring Break trip to Panama City Beach, Florida.**

**Ayes: 7**

**Nays: 0**

**Motion Carried**

**19-20-087 It was moved by Mr. Gray and supported by Ms. Cota Hill to approve the Softball Spring Break trip to Pigeon Forge, Tennessee.**

**Ayes: 7**

**Nays: 0**

**Motion Carried**

**19-20-088 It was moved by Mrs. Johnston and supported by Mr. Noffsinger to approve the Marching Band Uniform bid Purchase Recommendation.**

**Ayes: 7**

**Nays: 0**

**Motion Carried**

**19-20-089 It was moved by Ms. Cota Hill and supported by Mrs. Pomper to approve Board Policies 34-1.**

**Ayes: 7**

**Nays: 0**

**Motion Carried**

**Audience Participation (Open Topics): Valerie Gerhart – 380 Shields Drive, Beulah took the podium and thanked the Board of Education for approving the Marching Band Uniform Bid Recommendation. She attends sporting events just to see the band,**

sharing her appreciation of the program. Phillip Wysocki – 6190 N. Reynolds Rd., Lake Ann took the podium and extended his appreciation for the Marching Band Uniform Bid Recommendation approval. Phillip shared examples of Band Booster support and continues to advocate for the Band and the Performing Arts as they are part of our curriculum. Mike Jones – 17400 Thompsonville Rd., Thompsonville thanked the board for allowing the FFA Forest Stewardship Proposal to be on the agenda and inquired about follow up timeline. Paul Gerhart took the podium and followed up with a brief summary of the earlier FFA Forest Stewardship Proposal. Jason Streeter took the podium and inquired on information regarding policy language for softball scoreboard sponsorships. He also addressed bussing concerns regarding athletic travel rules.

**Board Communication:** Chris Noffsinger shared his appreciation for the new faces and energy at the last Future Planning Committee Meeting and invited others to join in to help educate and spread the word.

**Announcements:**

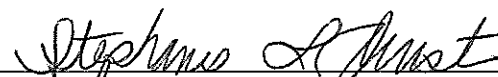
1. **Census -** All school districts are being asked by the US Census Bureau to assist in getting the word out in communities about the US Census. It is of importance to us as a school district as some federal and state funds are based upon counts in our region. Having inaccurate counts can negatively impact critical funding.
2. **Governor's Budget:** The early analysis of the Governor's Budget is pretty positive. Her proposal provides for a substantive per pupil increase, although she has again deviated from the "2X" formula for lowest and highest funded districts somewhat. She also proposes increases in special education and at-risk funding in moving toward a more "weighted" formula as called for by the School Finance Research Council equity study. There's a long way to go in the process, but it was telling that the Republican chair of the House Ed. Appropriations committee praised the educational portion of her budget. This is a positive sign that negotiations on education may be less contentious this year.
3. **Band Fundraiser – Little Ceasars Pizza Kit Fundraiser** is in full swing. See a band member to place an order. Money and orders are due by Friday, Feb. 28. Students will be able to pick-up their orders in the band room on Thursday, March 19. Checks can be made payable to the Benzie Central Band Boosters. \$6 of every kit ordered will go to support our bands students. Thank you for your continued support.

19-20-090 It was moved by Mr. Noffsinger and supported by Mrs. Brown to adjourn the regular meeting at 8:46 PM.

Ayes: 7

Nays: 0

Motion Carried

  
Secretary, Board of Education