REGULAR MEETING

A Regular meeting of the Benzie County Central Board of Education was held Monday, March 9, 2020, 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, Ms. Cota Hill,

Mr. Noffsinger, Mrs. Pomper

Members Absent: NONE

19-20-091 It was moved by Mrs. Brown and supported by Mr. Noffsinger to approve

the agenda as written.

Ayes: 7 Nays: 0 Motion Carried

19-20-092 It was moved by Mrs. Johnston and supported by Mrs. Pomper to approve

Consent Grouping items as presented.

A. Minutes: February 10, 2020 – Regular B. Business: General Fund Bills - \$748,172.99

C. Support Staff Appointments:

1. Cindy Greeley - Middle School Paraprofessional

Ayes: 7 Nays: 0 Motion Carried

Board Blueprint Communication: The District Impact Team continues to meet on the third Thursday of every month. They have been collaborating to re-work the surveys to collect accurate data; eliminating confusion around survey questions and scales.

Student Council Report: Senior, Brooke Lautner, Student Council Board Representative, reported on Snowcoming 2020. The student council met last Thursday, sharing ideas to improve Snowcoming 2021. They plan to elect council representatives by April 2020, for a smooth 2020-2021 transition.

Administration Report:

A. NMSLA – Superintendent Olson – Superintendent Olson shared that this has been an active month in the legislative world. The budget recommendation from the Governor is out there and being worked with as the Senate and House prepare their respective budget proposals as well. 2X funding appears to be in good shape and is likely to find its way into the final budget recommendation in some form. SB600 is a bill to provide changes to the Michigan Merit Curriculum and appears to be stalled. Same for any efforts to repeal retention provision of the 3rd grade reading law or to change teacher evaluation guidelines. Big issue at the moment is road funding. Education groups are opposing HB 5582-5587 as they shift sales tax on fuel to road funding while "backfilling" the School Aid

Fund (SAF) from General Fund (GF). Big concern with this is that GF has been under much more financial pressures (and can be especially tough in an economic downturn). The solution has been to shift General Fund priorities to the SAF, including an ever increasing share of higher Ed expenses alongside ALL community college funding. This is increasingly throttling our available dollars in the SAF, even in good economic times.

- B. Twisted Trails Permit Renewal Donna Humphrey Donna expressed her gratitude for the use of the 400+ acre "people's park" and the wide array of events they host. Twisted Trails is managed by a group of very committed individuals that are dedicated to giving you the best off-roading experience possible. Activities include a full sand drag racing facility, numerous miles of mild to wild trail rides, mud bogs, or rock crawling on our featured obstacles Holey Moley, Picker Valley, and Twisted. Twisted Trails Offroad Park hosts several events throughout the year, including but not limited to Short Course Races, Jeep Blessing Welcome, Trail Master Challenge Races, Extreme Trucks and more.
- C. Lake Ann Elementary Update Larry Haughn Principal Haughn shared the amazing activities taking place at Lake Ann Elementary. Their recent Lake Ann Elementary Daddy-Daughter Dance has been their most successful yet, with 85 students, and over 170 participants. The 2nd grade classes took a field trip to Horizon Books, the Coast Guard Station, and had lunch at the Career Tech. Center in Traverse City. The 3rd grade will be on stage for their MOSAIC performance on March 18. The Lake Ann Elementary 5th grade Odyssey of the Mind team placed 3rd in the region, and their 4th grade Odyssey of the Mind team placed 2nd in the region and has qualified for State competition in Grand Rapids.
- D. Curriculum Committee Update Brooke Capser Principal Capser shared that the Elementary Curriculum Committee is moving toward a standard based report card at the elementary level, which would provide consistency between Crystal Lake Elementary, Lake Ann Elementary, and Betsie Valley Elementary. Standards-based grading is a way to view student progress and achievements based on proficiency levels for identified standards. The standard based report card would reflect the standard being assessed as well as the proficiency level. In addition, Mrs. Capser shared that the curriculum committee is in the process of creating curriculum maps for all content areas that identify which standards will be taught, which assessments will be used to identify proficiency with the standards, as we all as a menu of resources to teach the standards. This aligns nicely with the standards based report card. The goal is to launch in the fall of 2020.
- E. Future Planning Committee Bond Proposal Keith Schaub, Megan Barnard, Winona Roper, and Finn McLaren spoke on behalf of the Future Planning Committee and the Proposed August 2020 Bond Recommendation. The proposal includes high quality classroom spaces, technology, and conditions for teaching and learning, modern educational facilities to rebuild/remodel taking current state of buildings and their current life expectancy into account, safety, security, environment infrastructure investments, Early Childhood Education

expansion, transportation needs to meet Benzie Central's unique geography, and cost containment; deriving maximum benefit for students alongside the lowest taxpayer burden possible. The main projects would include:

Remodeling/Renovation of Betsie Valley and Benzie Central MS/HS classrooms

Remodeling/Renovation of Betsie Valley and Benzie Central MS/HS classrooms and common spaces (1962 sections), replacement of roofs and upgrading of HVAC across the district, construction of a new elementary building on the main MS/HS campus to replace Crystal Lake Elementary, construction of a new bus garage and ongoing purchases of new busses for the next (10) years, and construction of new early childhood classrooms at Lake Ann Elementary and the new elementary building to expand preschool opportunities. Proposed lay outs were provided for both the new elementary as well as the high school gym remodel. The proposed total cost would be 39.5 million over the term of 24.5 years, with a 0.5 Mill increase.

F. Resignations -

Megan Singleton – Middle School Paraprofessional

Board of Education/Committee Reports – NONE

Audience Participation (Agenda Items Only) -NONE

Discussion Topics:

A. Thrun Policy Service – The Thrun Policy Service is now available for order. Thrun Policies are designed to be legally compliant and provide school officials with guidance and flexibility in a well-organized and user-friendly format. Superintendent Olson is working toward providing the board of education with a format comparison to that of NEOLA.

Action Topics:

19-20-093 It was moved by Ms. Cota Hill and supported by Mrs. Pomper to approve the Twisted Trails Permit Renewal.

Ayes: 7 Nays: 0 Motion Carried

19-20-094 It was moved by Mrs. Johnston and supported by Mr. Noffsinger to approve the Foresty Management Contract with (2) minor changes to the property description:

N 1/2 SW 1/4 and W 1/2 SE 1/4 and SW 1/4 fractional

Aves: 7 Navs: 0 Motion Carried

19-20-095 It was moved by Mrs. Brown and supported by Mr. Gray to approve the Superintendent Contract.

Ayes: 7 Nays: 0 Motion Carried

Audience Participation (Open Topics): High School Musical Director, Wendy Kalush,

took the podium and shared that the musical, *Into the Woods*, is this coming weekend, March 13 at 7:00 PM, March 14 at 7:00 PM, and March 15 at 2:00 PM. Ticket cost is \$12 for adults and \$6 for students and seniors.

Board Communication: There will be a Special Board of Education meeting on Wednesday, April 8, 2020 at 7:00 PM., for purposes of approval of application for preliminary qualification of bonds by the state treasurer.

Announcements:

- 1. Into the Woods Musical March 13-15.
- 2. Benzie Bus Mileage Renewal March 10.
- 3. Cognitive Coaching Traverse Bay Area ISD.
- 4. Crystal Lake Elementary Septic malfunction. District is working diligently to handle issues.
- 5. Coronavirus (COVID-19) the district is working closely with the MDE and Benzie-Leelanau District Health Department to keep staff, students, and community updated.
- 6. Sam Ross and Cody Hanson Regional Champions, and finished in the top (12) for Wrestling at the state level.

19-20-096 It was moved by Mr. Noffsinger and supported by Mrs. Pomper to adjourn the regular meeting at 8:19 PM.

Ayes: 7

Nays: 0

Motion Carried