

REGULAR MEETING

A Regular meeting of the Benzie County Central Board of Education was held Monday, September 14, 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, Ms. Cota Hill,
Mr. Noffsinger, Mrs. Pomper, Mr. Gray

Members Absent: NONE

20-21-046 It was moved by Mrs. Pomper and supported by Mrs. Brown to approve the agenda as written.

Ayes: 7

Nays: 0

Motion Carried

20-21-047 It was moved by Mrs. Pomper and supported by Ms. Cota Hill to approve Consent Grouping items as presented.

A. Minutes: August 10, 2020 –Regular | August 11 & 12, 2020 Special
August 24, 2020 –Special (2) | September 4, 2020 Special

B. Business: General Fund Bills – 374,194.44

C. Support Staff Appointments:

- Melissa Wallington – 8th Grade Volleyball
- Danielle Banasiak – Accounts Payable/Benefits Clerk
- Ashley Knox – Paraprofessional – Crystal Lake Elementary
- Ashley Pappas – Paraprofessional – Crystal Lake Elementary
- Jonathon Saffron – Bus Driver – Transportation Dept.
- Jessica Rhodes – Custodian – Middle School PM
- Diane Shepard – Paraprofessional – Betsie Valley Elementary
- Scott Lemmen – Varsity Football – Assistant Coach
- Geoff Miller – Freshmen Football Coach

Ayes: 7

Nays: 0

Motion Carried

Board Blueprint Communication: NONE

Student Council Report: NONE

Administration Report:

A. NMSLA – Superintendent Erfourth – NONE

- B. Betsie Valley Elementary – Interim Principal Sharyl Corey – Mrs. Corey shared that Betsie Valley Elementary is off to a fantastic start for the 2020/21 school year. She is awed at the positive parent and community support, and is encouraged by her amazing staff. Mrs. Corey expressed that the highest goal at Betsie Valley Elementary is to keep their students and staff safe, and is pleased to report that all have been flexible and supportive to keep the building open safely.**
- C. Chartwells K12 Food Service End of Year Update – Lisa Purchase – Lisa provided the Annual Food Service Update for Benzie Central Food Service 2019/20; Federal Claim up by 23K+ prior to COVID-19, Vending Revenue up by 2K+ prior to COVID-19, Catering Revenue up by 20K prior to COVID-19. Chartwells is happy to report that they presented their 5th Annual Scholarship in the amount of \$1000.00 to a deserving Benzie Central Senior in 2019/20. They continue to partner with BACN on an annual food drive in December. 2019/20 marked the sixth year that Chartwells has assisted in filling the food pantry, donating over 600 pounds. Various staff members gave freely of their time to assist with fundraisers, sporting events, and community functions held at Benzie County Central Schools. A positive fund balance allows for positive improvements. Betsie Valley Elementary received a three door freezer, new warmer, and a new stainless steel cart. Crystal Lake Elementary and Lake Ann Elementary received a new stainless steel can rack, and new stainless steel carts. The Middle School/High School received a new double stack convection oven, and new stainless steel cart. A few things worth mentioning:**
- Chartwells hit revenue of over 1M this year.
 - Chartwells served 145,878 meals during the March-June emergency feedings.
 - Chartwells paid the wage and fringe for paraprofessionals and bus drives working to feed our students during the Pandemic.
 - Total amount charged to Food Service was &68,609.40.
 - The amount covered by Food Service allowed the General Fund to grow by 3%.
 - The Food Service fund balance sits at a healthy \$365,763.48.
 - The Betsie Valley Elementary kitchen is completely “new” with the purchase of the 3 door freezer.
 - The Crystal Lake Elementary kitchen is completely “new” with the purchase of the can rack and carts.
 - MS/HS is positioned now and has the funding for major renovation of the kitchen (which was put on hold to the COVID-19 Pandemic).
 - Lake Ann Elementary is not in need of any major appliances or repairs at this time.
- D. Extended Learning Plan (ECOL) – Superintendent Erfourth – Superintendent Erfourth reported on House Bill 5913 (2020); Education: attendance; certain provisions concerning pupil membership and attendance; modify and add certain requirements concerning benchmark assessments. Amends secs. 6, 6a, 11p, 104, 201c & 236g of 1979 PA 94 (MCL 388.1606 et seq.) & adds sec. 98a. The Board of Education will need to meet monthly, updating the ECOL every 30 calendar days. The assessment being utilized the first nine weeks of school will be the NWEA;**

K-8th Grade, reading and math. The goal is that 80% will have made improvements from fall to spring.

E. MHSAA 2020-21 Membership Resolution – May is the month that begins membership renewal in the Michigan High School Athletic Association. Given the COVID-19 Pandemic, this resolution is on the agenda an action item for September 14, 2020. This membership is for the year, August 1, 2020 through July 31, 2021.

F. Resignations:

- **Dave Yacks – Varsity Football – Assistant Coach**
- **Scott Lemmen – Freshmen Football Coach**
- **Barbara Michels – Dispatcher – Transportation Department**
- **Michelle Laffleur – Paraprofessional – Betsie Valley Elementary**
- **Sarah Dougherty – Paraprofessional – Crystal Lake Elementary**
- **Guy Sauer – BCCS – Director of Transportation**
- **Ed Michels – BCCS – Bus Driver**
- **Kathleen Herman – Paraprofessional – Lake Ann Elementary**
- **Amanda Fortine – Custodian – Middle/High School**
- **Emily Stevenson – Special Education Teacher – Crystal Lake Elementary**
- **Maria Wolowiec – Paraprofessional – Benzie Academy**
- **Gary Pallin – Math Teacher – Middle School**
- **Jennifer Koscielski – Paraprofessional – Lake Ann Elementary**

Board of Education/Committee Reports:

- A. Thrun Policy Updates – Superintendent Amiee Erfourth – Superintendent Erfourth shared the Thrun Policies: SERIES 1000: Policy Overview, Mission Statement, and Definitions, SERIES 2000: BYLAWS, SERIES 3000: Operations, Finance, and Property, SERIES 4000: District Employment, and SERIES 5000: Students, Curriculum, and Academic Matters.**
- B. Policy Committee – Thrun Policy Service Updates/Resolutions.**
- **Thrun Law Firm Policy Manual Resolution – The Policy Committee has reviewed the Thrun Law Firm Policy Manual and recommends the Policy Manual for consideration, in the form presented for Board review and approval, to replace the Board’s existing policies, bylaws, and administrative guidelines, with the exception of Policy 5207 (Anti-Bullying), and Policy 5209 Student Use of Cell Phone and Electronic Communication Devices. (Both to be adopted October 12, 2020).**
 - **Thrun Law Firm Policy 5207 (Anti-Bullying) Resolution (to be voted on at the regularly scheduled October 12, 2020 Board of Ed. Meeting).**
 - **Thrun Law Firm COVID-19 Resolution –This Resolution is to temporarily amend its Board Policies to comply with the provisions of the Preparedness Plan and Executive Orders 2020-142, 154, 160, 161, 162, and any applicable successor orders.**

Ann, called in expressing concerns about Policy 5209 discussion. Phil added he feels it will be an enforcement nightmare, as many teachers are incorporating cell phone use as part of their educational plans, and feels it is micromanaging. Marc Alderman, 6215 S. Betsie River Rd. Interlochen, expressed his support of students wearing masks while in the classroom. Marc is a Middle School teacher and shared that his students are doing a great job following the mask policy. Dan Long, 8456 3rd St. Onkama, shared that he has been in education for twenty-four years. Dan is a Middle School teacher and feels students are successfully following the mask policy. Given personal health issues, he would like to see the mask policy remain. Abigail Smith, 20615 Red Oak Drive Lake Ann, expressed the importance of masks as a safety measure, not a political tool. Abigail is a 2018 graduate of Benzie Central High School, and feels masks should remain on students while in the classroom.

Discussion Topics:

- A. Benzie County Central Schools COVID-19 Preparedness and Response Plan - pg. 9 (PK-12 Face-Coverings) and, pg. 12 (MHSAA Athletic Guidelines –access to each link as changes are updated). –The intent is to clear up the Face-Coverings Policy as written in the Preparedness and Response Plan.; 6-12 students required to wear face-coverings (pg. 9) while in the classroom. This revision took place on 8/12/2020, after the plan was approved on 8/10/2020. In regard to Athletics (pg. 12), removal of boilerplate language *“Budgetary priorities for core instruction and safety as well as the possible inability in adequately train, clean/disinfect equipment, safely transport students, and monitor spectator and competitor compliance may require some modifications to the MHSAA guidelines and/or a revision of the decision”* that is no longer needed. The dates will also be removed from Low Risk: Cross Country, Medium Risk: Soccer and Volleyball, and High Risk: Football. Each MHSAA website link will remain hyperlinked to access for updates.
- B. Request for Early Graduation – STUDENT A. The Board of Education reviewed a written recommendation, including a credit audit, by High School Counselor, Emily Burrus, regarding early graduation for STUDENT A.

Action Topics:

20-21-048 It was moved by Mr. Noffsinger and supported by Mr. Gray to approve the appointment of Mary Radtke, Director of Transportation, Benzie County Central Schools.

Ayes: 7

Motion Carried

20-21-049 It was moved by Mrs. Brown and supported by Mrs. Pomper to approve the 2020/21 Middle/High School Student Handbook Addendum.

Ayes: 7

Nays: 0

Motion Carried

20-21-050 It was moved by Ms.Cota Hill and supported by Mrs. Brown to approve the

Extended Learning Plan (ECOL).**Ayes: 7****Nays: 0****Motion Carried**

20-21-051 It was moved by Mr. Gray and supported by Mr. Noffsinger to approve the Thrun Law Firm Policy Manual Resolution to replace the Board's existing policies, bylaws, and administrative guidelines, with the exception of Policy 5207 (Anti-Bullying), and Policy 5209 Student Use of Cell Phone and Electronic Communication Devices. (Both to be adopted October 12, 2020).

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

20-21-052 It was moved by Mrs. Brown and supported by Ms. Cota Hill to approve the Thrun Law Firm COVID-19 Board Resolution to temporarily amend its Board Policies to comply with the provisions of the Preparedness Plan and Executive Orders 2020-142, 154, 160, 161, 162, and any applicable successor orders.

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

20-21-053 It was moved by Mr. Noffsinger and supported by Mrs. Pomper to approve the MHSAA 2020-21 Membership Resolution.

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

20-21-054 It was moved by Ms. Cota Hill and supported by Mr. Gray to approve the Michigan Virtual Course Catalog.

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

20-21-055 It was moved by Mrs. Brown and supported by Mrs. Pomper to approve the clarification to Benzie County Central Schools COVID-19 Preparedness and Response Plan - pg. 9 clarifying (PK-12 Face-Coverings) and, pg. 12 updating (MHSAA Athletic Guidelines), with the understanding that this is a fluid document.

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

20-21-056 It was moved by Mr. Gray and supported by Mr. Noffsinger to approve the Request for Early Graduation, STUDENT A.

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

20-21-057 It was moved by Mr. Noffsinger and supported by Mr. Gray to approve the Authorized Signatory – Amiee Erfourth, replacing David A. Clasen on all of the below accounts at Honor Bank:

- General Fund Checking
- General Fund Savings
- Food Service Account
- Sinking Fund 2017-2026
- Early Childhood Savings
- Early Childhood Checking
- Dependent Care Checking
- Benzie Central Recyclers

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

Audience Participation (Open Topics): NONE

Board Communication: NONE

Announcements:

1. **Congratulations to Superintendent Amiee Erfourth on her first Board of Education Meeting.**

20-21-058 It was moved by Mr. Noffsinger and supported by Mr. Gray adjourn the regular meeting 8:51 PM.

Ayes: 7

Nays: 0

Motion Carried



Secretary, Board of Education