

## REGULAR MEETING

A Regular meeting of the Benzie County Central Board of Education was held Monday, March 8, 2021, virtually pursuant to MCL 333.2221 - [meet.google.com/uhz-othm-omu](https://meet.google.com/uhz-othm-omu)

Join by phone

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

**Members Present:** Mrs. Brown, Mrs. Johnston, Mr. Barnard, Ms. Cota-Hill, Mrs. Pomper, Mr. Noffsinger (tardy), Mr. Childs

**Members Absent:** NONE

**20-21-117** It was moved by Mrs. Brown and supported by Mrs. Pomper to approve the agenda as presented.

**Ayes:** 7

**Nays:** 0

**Motion Carried**

**20-21-118** It was moved by Mrs. Johnston and supported by Mr. Barnard to approve Consent Grouping items as presented.

**A. Minutes:** February 8, 2021 | Regular

**B. Business:** General Fund Bills – \$1,085,905.05

**C. Support Staff Appointments:**

1. Katie Johnston – Softball Coach – Middle School

2. Matt Chandler – Baseball Coach – Middle School

**D. Staff Changes:**

1. NONE

**E. Leave of Absence:**

1. NONE

**F. Public Act 149 of 2020 monthly two-way interaction rates, instructional delivery methods, Benchmark Assessments**

**G. Public Act 165 of 2020 Extended COVID-19 Learning Plans Monthly Submissions – February 2021**

**Ayes:** 7

**Nays:** 0

**Motion Carried**

**Board Blueprint Communication:** Stephanie Johnston shared that the District Impact Team is now starting each meeting with *What's Good at Benzie* and a BIT (Building Impact Team) update from one of the four campuses. The purpose of the BIT update is to keep communication channels open both up and down channel. The DIT team has also completed a data dive on NWEA Fall 2020/Winter 2021 data. In addition, the MICIP (My Kip) was presented, which is the new School Improvement Process. There is so much to be done at the DIT level, but a great deal of communication will be necessary between the Board of Education and the DIT for this process. It has a very aggressive timeline. March is the discovery phase, April is the planning phase, May is the implementation phase, and it must be submitted to the state by June 18, 2021. The DIT has also reviewed the Elementary

handbook through the lens of the ISSN. The DIT then sent the handbook reviews to the BITs for their input and review before returning to the Elementary Principals for edit before being presented to the Board of Education. It is important to remember the norms of the ISSN, which are:

- **Care-** *Every adult supports every student with a ferocious unwillingness to accept student failure*
- **Support-** *For students to build confidence and a willingness to invest themselves, their participation in academic tasks must be accompanied by systematic supports addressing the social, cultural, and academic needs of each student.*
- **Safety-** *Community values are developed, taught and reinforced. Expectations are clear, firm and consistently enforced. Action is responsive to students' individual needs.*
- **Membership-** *Students are engaged in a variety of ways. Students are not just physically present, but intellectually immersed, socially connected and emotionally centered.*

The DIT continued with the Book Study for the Five Dysfunctions of Teams, reviewing trust and conflict. The DIT then discussed what is something that the team could collectively commit to doing next which revolve around healthy debates, honest perspectives, being pushed outside of comfort zones, and embracing disagreement.

**Student Council Report: NONE**

**Administration Report:**

- A. **NMSLA – Superintendent Erfourth – Superintendent Erfourth shared that this update happened on Monday, March 8th. Rep. John Roth, 104th, was the guest speaker. This group shared with him the focus on 2x equity payment for schools in Northern Michigan to help bring all schools to the same base foundation payment. Other areas shared were the concern over the teacher evaluation process and the timing requirements on summer school expectations. Gov. Whitmer vetoed HB 4049 thereby changing the release of the ESSER II funding to 40% of the previously expected funding. Details are still being worked out as to how much Benzie will receive. Preliminary projections for the use of funds would be covering itinerant staff costs, projector/sound field upgrades, COVID-19 cleaning supply costs, Northern Michigan Virtual teachers for next year, online learning platforms, and possibly air purification systems.**
- B. **Benzie Central Forest | 80 acres| SW ¼, Sec 30, T26N R14W Benzonia Twp.- Paul Gerhart and Mike Jones – Paul Gerhart shared the timeline goal: Logging should be completed by Spring 2022.**

- Option 1 – Within April 2021 to late July 2021
- Option 2 – After Cross- Country season – November 2021 to April 2022
- Option 3 – May have to allow logging during Cross-Country season

Conservative estimates were shared for volume and income of Hardwood sawlogs (sugar maple, cherry, basswood), Boltwood (beech, low grade maple), Pulp, and Pine. The projected amount is \$20,600.00 with 1/5 going to the general fund, 2/5 FFA fund, and 2/5 agricultural program.

- C. DS4120 10/7/2020 High School Audit Appeal – Executive Assistant to the Superintendent, Catina Crossman, shared with the Board of Education the fall audit findings, and the timeline in which to appeal. The DS4120 was shared with Mrs. Crossman on Tuesday, March 2, 2021. There is a ten day window to appeal to our Traverse Bay Area Intermediate School District Auditor, and thirty days to appeal to the Michigan Department of Education. Given several keys factors, and the COVID-19 Pandemic, Mrs. Crossman will file a written request for informal agency review with detailed description of each pupil membership full-time equated (FTE) membership in dispute.
- D. Lake Ann Elementary Update – Principal, Larry Haughn – Mr Haughn shared that our new chromebooks have been distributed, are being used in all classrooms, and are becoming useful and valuable resources. Math and Literacy ISSN teams are planning for the 2021-2022 school year. The school ski program was very successful, with the most students participating than we have in the last five years. Mr. Haughn expressed his appreciation of Crystal Mountain’s support of our students allowing them to be active during this past year.
- E. Crystal Lake Elementary Update – Principal, Brooke Capser – Mrs. Capser shared with the Board of Education Teacher Collaborative Routines. The agenda includes, norms, DDD on SelWeb data, SMART goal, (2) ten minute observations of two other teachers of your choice in the building to include formative assessment document, and the new learning discovered, followed by debriefing. Monitoring Learning through Formative Assessment, Protocol for Data-Driven Dialogue, and PLC SMART Goal.
- F. Resolution Approving Real Property Agreement between Homestead Township and the Benzie County Central Schools – Superintendent Erfourth shared that this resolution will provide an easement to the township as well as eliminate the revert of the property to the school. Mrs. Erfourth relayed that she had heard back from Kirk Herald today, and that the revised descriptions have been completed, and progress is being made. Tom Grier, Homestead Township’s attorney shared the revised descriptions. The Board of Education will consider taking action on this resolution at our regularly scheduled April 12, 2021 meeting.

- G. Benzie County Central Schools (BCCEA) Contract Agreement – Superintendent Erfourth shared that she and Wendy Kalush were able to revise a few language issues and the Benzie County Central Schools (BCCEA) Contract Agreement is now finalized.**
- H. Technology Consultant – Superintendent Erfourth – Superintendent Erfourth shared that we have two qualified consultants. One is Bret Emerson at Commtech Designs for a total \$75,000. His fees cover consulting, design, and construction administration. The other person is Sara Easter, with a bid amount of \$112,340.00 Her fees cover consulting, design, construction administration, strategic planning, and three years of support for teachers and administration with the new technologies.**
- I. 7&4 Television Commercial – Superintendent Erfourth and Executive Assistant, Catina Crossman – Mrs. Erfourth shared that 7&4 was going to be shooting footage for the commercial on Tuesday, March 9, 2021, as part of our district advertising campaign. They will begin at the MS/HS Campus and then travel to Lake Ann Elementary. The commercial will showcase all that Benzie Central has to offer, through a series of videos, photos, and interviews. The timeline will encompass Early Childhood through high school. Catina Crossman shared that in addition to the commercial, Benzie County Central Schools will appear in several UpNorth Live facebook feeds, sharing pertinent district information.**
- J. Roadmaster Driving School, LLC – Third Party Road Testing - one-year agreement to utilize the high school parking lot (9300 Homestead Rd. Benzonia, MI. 49616) for the purpose of conducting third party driver education road testing through June 1, 2022 (with a \$3.00 per test reimbursement to the school district). Certificate of insurance is on file at the district.**
- K. Resignations:**
- **Michele Murray – Director of Finance – Central Business Office**

**Board of Education/Committee Reports – Bond Project Update on Schematic Design – Brendon Pollard, Director of Planning and Design – Kingscott – Brendon shared with the Board of Education the Schematic Design Presentation, including Site Masterplan, New Elementary, Lake Ann Elementary Additions, High School Weight Room Addition, and New Bus Garage. Kris Gerke, Project Manager, Wolgast, shared construction updates, including Middle School/High School roofing, football stadium lighting, Lake Ann Elementary boiler replacement, and Betsie Valley Elementary parking lot updates.**

**Audience Participation (Agenda Items Only): NONE**

**Discussion Topics:**

- A. Extended Learning Plan (ECOL) – No changes to our ECOL. Students K-12 remain both face-to-face and virtual in instructional delivery. Public Act 149 of 2020 Benchmarks are due again in May of 2021.**

**Action Topics:**

**20-21-119 It was moved by Mrs. Pomper and supported by Mr. Noffsinger to approve the appointment of Justin Weston, Director of Finance.**

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

**20-21-120 It was moved by Mrs. Johnston and supported by Mrs. Brown to approve the Extended Learning Plan (ECOL).**

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

**20-21-121 It was moved by Ms. Cota Hill and supported by Mrs. Johnston to approve the Benzie County Central Schools (BCCEA) Contract Agreement**

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

**20-21-122 It was moved by Mr. Noffsinger and supported by Mrs. Johnston to approve the Technology Contract – Bret Emerson – Commtech Design**

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

**20-21-123 It was moved by Mrs. Brown and supported by Mrs. Pomper to approve the Roadmaster Driving School, LLC – Third Party Road Testing**

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

**20-21-124 It was moved by Mr. Noffsinger and supported by Mrs. Johnston to approve the resignation of Michele Murray – Director of Finance**

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

**20-21-125 It was moved by Mrs. Johnston and supported by Mr. Barnard to approve the Bond Update on Schematic Design, pending budget reports**

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

**20-21-126 It was moved by Mr. Noffsinger and supported by Mrs. Brown to adjourn to Closed Session following Audience Participation for purposes of Superintendent Evaluation**

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

**Audience Participation (Open Topics): NONE**

**Board Communication:** Chris Noffsinger shared concerns that we need to address the mental health of our students at a larger level.

**Announcements:**

1. **Congratulations to Hunter Jones and Mylie Kelly – National Champion runners**
2. **Beauty and the Beast – High School Musical**
  - **March 12 – 7:00 PM**
  - **March 13 – 7:00 PM**
  - **March 14 – 2:00 PM**
  - **March 19 – 7:00 PM**
  - **March 20 – 7:00 PM**

**The Board of Education moved to close session at 8:37 pm., for purposes of Superintendent Evaluation.**

**20-21-127** It was moved by Mr. Noffsinger and supported by Mrs. Brown to adjourn the regular meeting 10:15 pm.

**Ayes: 7**

**Nays: 0**

**Motion Carried**

  
Secretary, Board of Education

*Respectfully Submitted,*

*Catina Crossman*

*Executive Assistant to the Superintendent*

*Board of Education Administrative Assistant*

*Benzie County Central Schools*