

**SPECIAL MEETING**

**A Special meeting of the Benzie County Central Board of Education was held Sunday, May 23, 2021 at 2:00 PM at the Crystal Lake Golf Club, 8493 Fairway Drive, Beulah, MI. 49617**

**President Childs called the meeting to order at 2:05 PM**

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

**Members Absent: NONE**

**Consent Grouping: NONE**

**Student Council Report: NONE**

**Administration Report: ECOL – May Benchmark Data – Superintendent Efourth shared the Achievement or Growth on Benchmark Assessments for Kindergarten – 5<sup>th</sup>; Reading 58% - 56% female and 60% male. Math 54% - 52% female and 57% male. Achievement or Growth Benchmark Assessments 6<sup>th</sup> – 8<sup>th</sup>; Reading 47% - 46% female and 49% male. Math 45% - 50% female and 41% male.**

**Board of Education/Committee Reports: NONE**

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

**Discussion Topics:**

- A. Resolution Designating District's Electoral Representative – Northwest Education Services – The Board of Education is to recommend the designation of electoral representative to adopt the Resolution Designating District's Electoral Representative. The Board of Education recommends Board Representative Stephanie Johnston, and alternate, Lori Cota-Hill.**
- B. Superintendent Evaluation – The Board of Education was supplied a copy of the final document for the Superintendent Evaluation. The evaluation is based on the 6 domains in the Marzano District Leader Evaluation Model; A Data-Driven Focus to Support Student Achievement, Continuous Support for Improvement of Instruction, Continuous Support for a Guaranteed and Viable Curriculum, Cooperation and Collaboration, District Climate, and Resource Allocation. The final rating is calculated on 60% of the overall Marzano Domains, and 40% on student growth. All comments and documentation for this final evaluation come directly from the March 8, 2021 closed session between the Benzie County Central Schools Board of Education and Superintendent, Amiee Erfourth. The final rating was Applying 2.83.**
- C. Resolution to support Henry Rd. – Superintendent Erfourth shared**

that she, Matt Skeels, Rich Brauer, Board trustee, Jason Barnard, and Board of Education President, Brian Childs, met to walk the property and check the boundaries for the proposed Henry Road paving and easement location. Rich Brauer is willing to allow us to pave Henry Road in the current location (which currently is not on section line but wanders over onto his property). Rich has proposed allowing this if we would be willing to support a resolution to present to the Road Commission recommending we close the east west section of Henry Road just past the end of the school property. Matt Skeels shared that we may be able to pave the road where it currently sits even if Rich were not on board as there are laws that would allow this. However, it seems to make sense for the school to support the elementary school sitting at the end of a cul de sac verses a through road.

1. **Board of Education Communication Expectation Protocol - Nick Ceglarek, Ed.D – Mr. Ceglarek joined to help facilitate the support of communication between board member to board member, board member to superintendent, and superintendent to board members. Collectively, discussion was had on the various forms of communication that Superintendent Erfourth uses. With that, Dr. Ceglarek emphasized the complexities of being a Superintendent, adding into the mix, the COVID-19 pandemic, and the recent passing of the bond as additional facets and time constraints of this position. Each board member was able to define what communication works best for them, and together found ways to effectively streamline the communication style to meet the needs of all within the scope of Superintendent communications versus Board of Education Committee communications. Boilerplate language will also be used for email correspondences by the Board of Education secretary, ensuring proper channels are being taken, and all Board of Education members properly communicate. The Board of Education would also like to revisit at the June 7, 2021 Regular Board of Education meeting *Series 2000 Bylaws - – 2500 Board Meetings and Open Meetings Act Compliance - 2501 Meetings*; in particular special meeting purpose language. The Board of Education agrees that Special Meetings must only be called for in the event of time sensitive decision making, such as student safety or bond contract time constraints.**

**D. Board of Education Committee Assignments – The Board of Education realigned committees and assigned and re-assigned member assignments to each.**

- **Policy**  
Nicki Brown  
Chris Noffsinger  
Jason Barnard
- **Building and Grounds**  
Brian Childs  
Chris Noffsinger  
Nicki Brown
- **Northern Michigan Virtual/Benzie Academy**  
Lori Cota-Hill
- **Finance**  
Amber Pomper
- **Strategic Planning/District Impact**
- **Stephanie Johnston**
- **Educational Foundation**  
Chris Noffsinger
- **Liaison/Curriculum**  
Nicki Brown  
Lori Cota-Hill
- **Negotiations**  
Custodial – Amber Pomper, Chris Noffsinger  
Paraprofessional – Stephanie Johnston, Amber Pomper  
Secretarial – Lori Cota-Hill, Jason Barnard  
Transportation – Nicki Brown, Chris Noffsinger  
Teacher – Brian Childs, Nicki Brown

**At this time the Board of Education will pause on designating School Representatives contingent upon direction of Building and District Impact teams (BIT, DIT).**

- E. Strategic Planning – The Board of Education was able to discuss the vision and strategic planning for the district going forward; the why, the what, and the how. The process of passing both the sinking fund and later the bond have gone a long way toward resolving our immediate infrastructure needs, and have put the Board of Education on a path of getting a handle on the future concerns of the district. This is an amazingly complex process, and the work that those involved have done so far, and continue to do, is much appreciated. Having our infrastructure needs addressed allows us to look at the other major responsibility of the board, which is the vision. The vision of the district as a pyramid. The top third of the pyramid is goal setting, the middle third is curriculum and policy to achieve the goals which are set, and the base of the pyramid are what we need to**

have in place for this to occur: budget, facilities, staff, and community. At Benzie Central, we see our goal as education, which is achieved by focusing on the care, safety, membership and welfare of our students. In order to achieve this, we need a curriculum which establishes what information we want our students to have, policies which enable us to implement that curriculum, and service, which explains why they are being given this information and what they are expected to do with it going forward. The foundation on which this takes place are the things which have to be there for all of it to happen; budget, facilities, and staff. Within the vision, the Board of Education acknowledges their roles and responsibilities; community outreach, making contact with those families who school of choice to other districts, attending community events, and responding to concerns. The Board of Education plans to tentatively schedule their next Board of Education Retreat on September 26, 2021 at 2:00 PM. Location is to be determined.

**Action Topics:**

- 20-21-153** It was moved by Mr. Noffsinger and supported by Mrs. Pomper to approve the ECOL with May 2021 Benchmark Data  
**Ayes: 7 Nays: 0 Motion Carried**
- 20-21-154** It was moved by Mrs. Pomper and supported by Mr. Noffsinger to approve the Resolution Designating District's Electoral Representative for the June 7, 2021 Biennial Election– Northwest Education Services. Stephanie Johnston, and Alternate, Lori Cota-Hill.  
**Ayes: 7 Nays: 0 Motion Carried**
- 20-21-155** It was moved by Mr. Noffsinger and supported by Mrs. Johnston to approve the Superintendent Evaluation – Amiee Erfourth.  
**Ayes: 7 Nays: 0 Motion Carried**


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

**20-21-156 It was moved by Mr. Noffsinger and supported by Mr. Barnard to adjourn the Special Board Meeting at 6:33 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*