

REGULAR MEETING

A Regular meeting of the Benzie County Central Board of Education was held Monday, June 27, 2022, in the Board of Education Conference Room.

President Brown called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

Members Present: Mrs. Brown, Mrs. Johnston, Mr. Childs, Ms. Cota Hill

Members Absent: Mr. Noffsinger, Mr. Barnard, Mrs. Pomper

21-22-179 It was moved by Mr. Childs and supported by Mrs. Johnston to approve the agenda as presented.

Ayes: 4

Nays: 0

Motion Carried

Opening Statement:

We are a team. We leave our personal opinions at the door and we are bound by Policy 2302 to faithfully discharge the office of a board member and keep in mind our primary concern is the educational welfare of students focusing on governance and fiduciary obligations of the district including duties of loyalty and care, placing the District's interests above the Board member's personal interests.

21-22-180 It was moved by Mrs. Johnston and supported by Mr. Childs to approve Consent Grouping items as presented.

A. Minutes: June 6, 2022 Regular

B. Business: General Fund Bills – NONE

C. Support Staff Appointments:

- **Jeff Nordbeck – Varsity Girls Basketball Head Coach**

D. Staff Assignment Changes: NONE

E. Leave of Absence: NONE

Ayes: 4

Nays: 0

Motion Carried

District Impact Team Update: Board of Education Secretary, Stephanie Johnston shared the following update: There has been one meeting since we last met, and we have wrapped up for the year. We discussed the results of the May 27 survey, and the five areas in which we would like to focus on.

Student Council Report: NONE

Administration Report:

- A. NMSLA – Superintendent Erfourth shared we are still waiting on the state for final numbers for the budget. In addition, Michigan's legislation requires that all high school students take a half-credit course in personal finance before they graduate. That course can count as a math, arts, language or language other than English requirement at the discretion of local**

school boards. The bill will go into effect for students starting eighth grade in the 2023 school year.

- B. MHSAA Resolution, Draft Athletic Handbook, season recap - Athletic Director, Eli Harris – Mr. Harris shared that the membership resolution is the standard yearly resolution that ensures that the Board of Education/Governing Body hereby delegates to the Superintendent or his/her designee(s) the responsibility for the supervision and control of said activities, and hereby accepts the Constitution and By-Laws of said association and adopts as its own the rules, regulations and interpretations (as minimum standards), as published in the current handbook. In addition, Athletic Director Harris shared a copy of the DRAFT Athletic Coaches Handbook including the following: Benzie Central Schools Mission, Benzie Central Schools Athletic Statement, MHSAA Code of Conduct for Coaches and Athletes, Dual Sport Application and Guidelines, and a Directory for Head Coaches. Mr. Harris ended his presentation with a 2021/22 Sports Update.**

**FALL Participation
High School**

SPORT	BOYS	GIRLS	TOTAL
FOOTBALL	41	0	41
CROSS COUNTRY	13	12	24
SOCCER	13	0	13
VOLLEYBALL	0	20	20
CHEERLEADING	0	6	6
TOTAL	67	38	105

**WINTER PARTICIPATION
High School**

SPORT	BOYS	GIRLS	TOTAL
BASKETBALL	29	20	49
WRESTLING	21	1	22
SKIING	0	4	4
BOWLING	7	0	7
TOTAL	57	25	82

SPRING PARTICIPATION High School

SPORT	BOYS	GIRLS	TOTAL
BASEBALL	30	0	30
SOFTBALL	0	28	28
SOCCER	0	17	17
TRACK AND FIELD	27	19	46
TOTAL	57	64	121

In the Fall there were 335 students enrolled in the high school. Out of the 105 athletes, 5 are Academy students. This indicates that 29.8% of our high school student body and 5 % of the Academy were involved in athletics for the fall sports season.

In the Winter there were 315 students enrolled in the high school and 115 in the Benzie Academy. Out of the 82 winter athletes 2 were Academy Students. This indicates that 25.4% of our high school student body and 1.7 % of the Academy were involved in athletics for the winter season.

In the Spring there were 310 students enrolled in the high school and 118 in Benzie Academy. Out of the 121 spring athletes 6 were Academy Students. This indicates that 37.1% of our high school student body and 5.1 % of the Academy were involved in athletics for the spring season.

Northwest Conference Champions

Boys Cross Country

Girls Cross Country

Boys Basketball

Boys Bowling (GNHSBC) Regular Season and Tourney

Boys Track and Field

Recognition

Record-Eagle Dream Team

Mylie Kelly Cross Country, Track

Hunter Jones Cross Country, Track

Kevin Hubbell Soccer

Nate Childers Basketball

Quinn Zickert Basketball

Jaxon Childers Basketball

Gloria Stepanovich Basketball, Track
Devon Harris Track
Tyrone Brouillet Track
Liath Ramirez Track
Danny Wallington Baseball
Nona Schultz Softball
Michael Wooten Football (Senior All-Star Football Game)

All-State Athletes
Kevin Hubbell 2nd team all-state (3rd year) Soccer
Elise Johnson 21st in the state Cross Country, Track 4x1 relay 3rd
Mylie Kelly 6th Cross Country, Track 3200 meter
Hunter Jones State Champion Cross Country, Track State Champion 1600, 800 2nd in 3200
Gloria Stepanovich Basketball, Track State Champion Long Jump, 3rd 4x1 relay
Kara Johnson Track 4x1 relay 3rd
Adrian Childs Track 4x1 relay 3rd
Tyrone Brouillet Track 110m hurdles 8th 300 meter hurdles 6th
Nate Childers Basketball
Quinn Zickert Basketball
Jaxon Childers Basketball
Liath Ramirez Track Shot Put 5th

Academic Recognition

Team-Academic All-State
Football, Volleyball, Boys Cross Country, Girls Cross Country, Boys Basketball, Girls Basketball, Softball, Boys Track

Individual Academic All-State

Hunter Jones, Mylie Kelly, Maya Musgrave, Elise Johnson, Michael Musgrave, Nate Childers, Devon Harris, Ike Koscielski, Ethan Lemmen, Quinn Zickert, Olivia Bailey, Matilde Torgerson

- C. School Wellness Program (SWP) Update - Policy CAC (Community Advisory Council Expectations) – Superintendent Erfourth – Superintendent Erfourth shared that we did receive a grant from the state for the School Wellness Program for a nurse and a social worker. A stipulation of the grant, was to have a Policy CAC. The first meeting of the Community Action Committee was held on Thursday. The team members include: Lisa Purchase, Mike Hammar, Steve Graetz, Shannon Gillion, Amber Pomper, Sara Hienz, Jeanette Pritchett, Amiee Erfourth, Betsy Hardy, and the new nurse/social worker once they are hired. We are also hoping to add Kristi Morrow, Kirsten Cline, and Rebecca Kis. This team needs to meet at a minimum of twice a year and they must approve policies for the school wellness program. These policies will be shared with the Board of Education for board approval on July 11, 2022.**

- D. Centra Wellness Contract – Superintendent Erfourth – Superintendent Erfourth shared that there will be 3.0 FTE Prevention Specialists (social workers) for the Safenet Program at all there Benzie Central Elementary Schools. This agreement is between Manistee Benzie Community Mental Health Service Organization also known as Centra Wellness Network and Benzie County Central Schools. The agreement includes the following:**

M.B.C.M.H.O. Agrees:

- A. To employ up to 3.0 F.T.E. (total) Prevention Specialists (social workers) for the Safenet Program at Benzie Central Elementary Schools.**
- B. To provide coordination between the Safenet team members.**
- C. To provide clinical supervision, as well as direct supervision.**
- D. To meet with B.C.C.S. building principals or other administrators as necessary to provide support, coordination, and evaluation of the program.**
- E. To provide all compensation, benefits, worker's compensation, professional liability coverage and administration thereof.**
- F. To provide Recipient Rights training for all involved staff.**
- G. To develop/procure resource materials for the program as necessary, such as books and videos.**
- H. To ensure documentation of activities and provide summary reports in this regard.**
- I. To provide administrative support necessary for the program**

B.C.C.S. Agrees:

- A. To provide day-to-day caseload consultation and support for the Safenet worker(s).**
- B. To assist in program evaluation.**
- C. To appoint designated liaison personnel to whom the worker(s) report.**
- D. To Fund M.B.C.M.H.O. Twenty Thousand Dollars and No Cents (\$20,000.00) toward the cost of operating this program.**

The term of this agreement is September 1, 2022 through August 31, 2023.

- E. Adoption of 2022/23 Budget – Director of Finance, Justin Weston - Review of the requirements to hold a joint public meeting for Truth in Taxation and Budget Adoption. The District will levy 18.0000 mills for Operations, 0.8684 mills for Sinking Fund, and 1.9900 for Debt Retirement. Amounts expected from each levy unit was displayed. Taxable values are up from last year; however, this goes into the calculation used by the state to determine funding. The State deducts the per-pupil local revenue from the foundation allowance. State funding per pupil for the 2021-2022 school year was \$8,700. The state has proposed an increase of \$300-450 per pupil, so we do expect an increase for the year, but we aren't sure how much until the budget is approved. Until then, the District will be conservative and budget for a \$300 per pupil increase, with a total foundation allowance of \$9,000. Total General Fund revenues expected to be collected for the 2022-2023 school year total \$16,407.578. General Fund expenditures are set**

at \$15,746,882 leaving a remaining budget of approximately \$660,696 which will be used for other expenses or savings for future planning. We aim to save \$500,000 per year to prepare for larger long-term expenses such as technology, buses, curriculum, etc. We briefly touched on how much is currently allocated towards Bond projects that are ongoing throughout the District. We briefly touched on how much we plan to levy for the sinking fund. We plan to maintain the balance in the sinking fund for projects needed after the bond projects are finished. All other funds are rolling healthy balances into the new year. Finally, ESSER I funds are fully spent as of the end this year and 90%+ of ESSER II funds will be spent by the end of the year. We have \$1,475,318 of ESSER III funds approved for expenditures for FY23. We will apply for the remaining \$737,600 for FY23 expenditures as well. We've hired some additional staff to address learning loss throughout the District.

- F. 2022 Winter Tax Levy Rates – Director of Finance, Justin Weston, shared the 2022 Tax Rate Request L-4029 Benzie, Manistee, Wexford, Grand Traverse Counties with the Board of Education for approval. NHS 18.000 Mills, Sinking Fund 0.8684, and Debt 2021 1.9900 Mills.**
- G. Paul Oliver Memorial Hospital & Benzie County Central Schools Athletic Training Services Agreement – Superintendent Erfourth shared that Paul Oliver has asked that we contribute closer to Arthur's cost for services (approximately \$43,000). We have been contributing \$3,000 annually. We proposed \$10,000 for 22-23, \$20,000 for 23-24, and \$20,000 for 24-25. Paul Oliver has acknowledged our kind contribution for the weight room/training space and new equipment.**
- H. Letter of Agreement BCCS – BCCS Secretarial Association – Superintendent Erfourth shared that this letter is to create an agreement for pay when secretaries attend field trips or activities outside of the school day. This matches the language in the paraprofessionals Master Agreement. This agreement expires when the contract expires, June 30, 2024.**
- I. Non-Union Contracts – The non-union employee hourly rates and salaries were presented to the Board of Education. There is one non-union employee addition. Athletic Director Eli Harris will go from Willsub to Benzie County Central School Employee.**
- J. Benzie Academy Handbook – Benzie Academy Update – Elaine Taghon and Rebecca Kik - Mrs. Taghon and Mrs. Kik shared the primary handbook updates. Aside from initial clean up, they rid of the Northern Michigan Virtual language, aligned discipline and consequence, added language for attendance more in line with the virtual setting, and added no bags or backpacks. They are moving toward an Alternative Setting vs. Alternative School to rid of the negative connotation. Benzie Academy offers education to students who are severely ill, work to support themselves or their families, travel with sports, single team parents, and those with mental health concerns. They team with Centra Wellness to support these students. Their goal I to bring in outside agencies such as:**

- **MSU Teen Cuisine**
- **Military recruiters**
- **Grow Benzie/COGNiTION**
- **Build Your Life**
- **Sunrise Rotary**
- **IBEW (electrical workers union), HVAC (plumbing and heating)**
- **College Admissions**

Student resources are as follows, but not limited to:

- **Mrs. Mullen's Closet/Food-Blessings in A Backpack**
- **After School Homework Lab (1-2 times per week)**
- **Meet with seniors at the beginning of the year to review credits and graduation requirements, credit audits on-line for students to access at any time**
- **Full time counselor at Benzie Academy is now available**
- **Paraprofessional**
- **Virtual office hours/Google Meets/Emails/Text/Google Voice Calls, and meeting with students outside of school**

They currently are using Xello regarding future plans and short term/long term goal setting, healthy competitions between the AM and PM classes.

They currently sit at 118 students.

K. MS/HS Handbook & Math Pilot – CPM Curriculum Proposal and Envision Mathematics Curriculum – Assistant Principal, Michael Hammar – Mr. Hammar shared with the Board of Education the proposed changes for the 2022/23 MS/HS Handbook. Most notable, organization, table of contents toward the front, graduation requirements hyperlinked to Thrun Policy, (10) UNX absences results in a D*, the cellphone policy contingent upon the Board of Education's Policy 5209 decision on July 11, 2022, excused tardies 1st hour, Suspensions Thrun compliant, and Title IX language Thrun compliant. The handbook will be made available to parent via the website, as well as communication from the MS/HS office. Mr. Hammar shared information on both CPM and Envisions. Purpose: To help improve math scores in the MS/HS. To support teachers in the teaching of math with new strategies and methods. To determine if this is the program(s) we would like to implement 6-12. Long Term Goals: 1.) To create consistency 6-12 in teaching mathematics, the Common Core Standards, and the Mathematics Practice standards. 2.) To allow more time for teachers to differentiate instruction rather than creating and managing materials. 3.) To create streamlined system for introducing math concepts and vocabulary that is scaffolded from year to year. 4.) To see improved NWEA and MSTEP performance from students at Benzie Central MS/HS. 5.) To get our students to enjoy the subject of Mathematics more. The price for CPM is \$1,360 and the price for Envisions is \$4,828. Mr. Hammar is recommending both CPM and Envisions to the Board of Education.

L. Elementary Handbook – Principal, Sharyl Corey – Mrs. Corey shared the updated changes to the 2022/23 Elementary Handbook. The changes are as follows:

- Policies present, processes, and form available on the school website are linked.
- Pages 11 and 12 updated to reflect the use of Restorative Practices.
- Pages 18, 19, 20 (Covid expectations and flow charts) replaced with link to the Return to Benzie and Return to Betsie Valley Elementary plans posted on our website.

M. Resignations:

- Michael Cox – Middle School Soccer Coach

N. Retirements:

- Holly Zirkel – Paraprofessional – Lake Ann Elementary

Board of Education/Committee Reports –

A. Buildings and Grounds Committee –

1. Bond Project Updates – Dan Tryles, Kingscott Project Manager shared updates with the Board of Education.

Homestead Hills Elementary- Footings and Foundation work.

Lake Ann Elementary – Foundation in place, tubing for radiant flooring.

High School Locker Room dirt floor.

The state plan review process has been a hang up for the CORE team. To date Betsie Valley Elementary, Homestead Hills Elementary, and Lake Ann Elementary have been approved. The High School Locker Rooms and Weight Room Addition are waiting on plumbing review, and we are hopeful that it will come through tomorrow. MS/HS Phase 2 has been approved, but is still waiting on the Bureau of Fire Services. The High School classroom remodeling has had no bid on case work. A modification has been an office in our Central Business Office. We are waiting on finalized drawings for pricing. Power can be ran from the soccer score board to the Homestead Hills Elementary road sign.

2. Building Use Forms, Procedures, and Fees – No Update.

B. Policy Committee –

1. Handbook Changes Update – Superintendent Erfourth shared that the handbooks would be approved at the July and August regular board meetings.
2. Policy 5209 Student Use of Cell Phone and Electronic Communication Devices – This policy is being discussed for possible changes. The recommendation after hearing from Administration and staff is to move toward Option 2. [Option 2 (students prohibited from using cell phones during school hours): Students may not use cell phones or other electronic devices during school hours. Cell phones or other electronic devices must be stored in the student's locker during school hours if a student chooses to bring them to school.] The Board of Education will plan to take action at the July 11 regularly scheduled Board of Education meeting.

C. Finance Committee –Board of Education Treasurer, Jason Barnard – Updated this evening by Director of Finance, Justin Weston.

- D. Educational Foundation – Superintendent Erfourth – No Update.**
- E. Liaison/Curriculum –Trustee, Lori Cota Hill – No Update.**
- F. Negotiations – Superintendent Erfourth shared that we will hold on taking action on the Paraprofessional Master Agreement, as the revised contract has not yet been returned. The teachers plan to meet on Thursday to negotiate.**
- G. Benzie Academy – Superintendent Erfourth -Updated this evening by Elaine Taghon and Rebecca Kik.**

Audience Participation (Agenda Items Only) – NONE

Discussion Topics: NONE

Action Topics:

21-22-181 It was moved by Mrs. Johnston and supported by Mr. Childs to approve the MHSAA 2022/23 Membership Resolution for year August 1, 2022-July 31, 2023

Ayes: 4 Nays: 0 Motion Carried

21-22-182 It was moved by Ms. Cota Hill and supported by Mrs. Johnston to approve the Adoption of 2022/23 Budget.

Ayes: 4 **Nays: 0** **Motion Carried**

21-22-183 It was moved by Mrs. Johnston and supported by Mr. Childs to approve 2022/23 Winter Tax Levy Rates.

Ayes: 4

21-22-184 It was moved by Mr. Childs and supported by Ms. Cota Hill to approve to approve the Paul Oliver Memorial Hospital & Benzie County Central Schools Athletic Training Services Agreement.

Ayes: 4 **Nays: 0** **Motion Carried**

21-22-185 It was moved by Mrs. Johnston and supported by Ms. Cota Hill to approve the BCCS-BCCS Secretarial Association Letter of Agreement.

Ayes: 4 Nays: 0 Motion Carried

21-22-186 It was moved by Mrs. Johnston and supported by Mr. Childs to approve the Non-Union Contracts.

Ayes: 4 Nays:0 Motion Carried

21-22-187 It was moved by Ms. Cota Hill and supported by Mrs. Johnston to approve the Math Pilots – CPM and Envisions.

Ayes: 4 Nays: 0 Motion Carried

21-22-188 It was moved by Mrs. Johnston and supported by Mr. Childs to approve to

table the BCCS – BCCS Paraprofessional Association Master Agreement.

Ayes: 4

Nays: 0

Motion Carried

21-22-189 It was moved by Ms. Cota Hill and supported by Mrs. Johnston to approve the BCCS – BCCEA- Letter of Agreement – Early Retirement Incentive.

Ayes: 4

Nays: 0

Motion Carried

21-22-190 It was moved by Mr. Childs and supported by Mrs. Johnston to approve the Superintendent Contract – Amiee Erfourth as presented.

Ayes: 4

Nays: 0

Motion Carried

Audience Participation (Open Topics): NONE

Board Communication:

- 1. Board of Education Retreat – July 17, 2022 – 9:00 AM. – Location to be determined.**

Announcements:

- Thank you to Holly Zirkel for her many years of service and dedication to the Benzie Central School District.**

21-22-191 It was moved by Mr. Childs and supported by Mrs. Johnston to adjourn the regular meeting 9:19 PM.

Ayes: 4

Nays: 0

Motion Carried

Secretary, Board of Education

Please note that June 27, 2022 Regular Board Minutes are subject for approval on August 15, 2022

Respectfully Submitted,

Catina Crossman

Executive Assistant to the Superintendent

Board of Education Administrative Assistant

Benzie County Central Schools