REGULAR MEETING

A Regular meeting of the Benzie County Central Board of Education was held Monday, August 15, 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. Pomper, Mr. Childs, Ms. Cota Hill, Mr. Noffsinger,

Mrs. Johnston

Members Absent: Mr. Barnard

22-23-020 It was moved by Mrs. Johnston and supported by Mr. Noffsinger to approve the agenda with the exceptions of amending the administration report by adding I. Transportation Tentative Agreement and by moving Consent Grouping E. 1. Ashley Lindstrom 22/23 Leave of Absence to Action item K., and adding Action item L. Tentative Transportation Agreement.

Ayes: 6 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.

- 22-23-021 It was moved by Mrs. Johnston and supported by Mrs. Pomper to approve Consent Grouping items as presented.
 - A. Minutes: June 27, 2022 Regular | July 11, 2022 Regular | July 17, 2022 Special
 - B. Business: General Fund Bills \$1,668,970.53
 - C. Support Staff Appointments:
 - Ashley Alvey Teacher Crystal Lake Elementary
 - Misty Tennant -Secretary Middle/High School
 - Chelsea Willis- Secretary Betsie Valley Elementary
 - Josh Edingfield Bus Driver Transportation Department
 - Betty Collingwood Admin. Asst. | Dispatcher Transportation Department
 - Candice Swander Volleyball Coach 8th Grade
 - Patrick Mangan Teacher Lake Ann Elementary
 - D. Staff Assignment Changes: NONE
 - E. Leave of Absence:
 - Michelle Laffleur Adjusted from 22/23 to 9/6/22-9/16/22 rescinded to 9/6/22
 - F. Employee Termination
 - Employee A

Ayes: 6 Nays: 0 Motion Carried

District Impact Team Update: NONE

Student Council Report: NONE

Administration Report:

- A. NMSLA Superintendent Erfourth shared that NMSLA held no formal meeting. However, thank you to Nicki Brown, Amber Pomper, and Stephanie Johnston for attending the NMSLA dinner held on August 3, 2022 at the Hagerty Center in Traverse City. It was very informative and a great opportunity for networking.
- B. Superintendent Growth Plan Goals Update. Superintendent Erfourth shared that there are six (6) domains in the Marzano Evaluation Tool:
 - I(1): The district leader ensures clear and measurable goals are established for all relevant areas of responsibility that are focused on the most critical needs for improving student achievement. Growth Plans, LFP's, Building Level walk throughs.
 - II(2): The district leader effectively supports and retains school and department leaders who continually enhance their leadership skills through reflection and professional growth. Curriculum Maps, Professional Learning Communities, Teacher Collaborative Routines.
 - III(2): The district leader ensures that district-level programs, curricula, and other initiatives can be adequately addressed in the time available to the district and schools. Parent Advisory Council, Friday Calls/Videos, Husky Hub, Surveys to students, staff, families, community members.
 - IV(1): The district leader ensures that constituents (e.g. school board, administrators, teachers, students, and parents) perceive the district as caring, collaborative, and cooperative. Survey participation.
 - V(1): The district leader uses systems processes to manage fiscal resources and maximizes support for schools, teachers, and each student. Resource Allocation, Bond, Furniture Surveys.
 - VI(3): The district leader manages the organization, operations, instructional programs, and initiatives to maximize the use of resources that promote effective instruction and student achievement.
- C. School Wellness Program Agreement Nurse & Social Worker Superintendent Erfourth shared that official contract with the Benzie-Leelanau Health Department for the social worker, nurse, and costs for office space and renovations. This is made possible from a grant by the state and the Benzie-Leelanau District Health Department is the fiduciary.

- D. Community Eligibility Provision (CEP) Free/Reduced Lunch Update Director of Food Service, Lisa Purchase, and Director of Finance, Justin Weston, have worked to provide free breakfast and lunch for all students in our district. We may need to cover 19% of associated costs but we continue to have over \$200,000 in funds for food service that we have saved. We are required to create spend down plans each year. We try to maintain the \$100,000 mark and spend down our overages. By providing free breakfast and lunch to all students we will not have as much revenue at the end of the year but Justin and Lisa are confident we can cover the difference. The other reason we need to consider moving to free for all is that we have seen lower participation numbers when we have to charge. We also experience issues with students have negative lunch balances and trying to recoup costs.
- E. Mechanic Contract Update Superintendent Erfourth shared that Frankfort-Elberta Area Schools helps to cover the cost of this contract for services. They have increased their contribution which would reflect Bo Hebel's hourly wage from \$21.00 to \$23.00 per hour.
- F. Athletic Director Contract Update Athletic Director Harris is no longer employed through ESS Willsub. He is now contracted through Benzie County Central Schools, with health benefits, retirement, and annuity. His contract has been extended to 200 days at a rate of \$47,250.00 annually.
- G. Resignations:
- Margaret Lyons Teacher Lake Ann Elementary
- Misty Tennant Secretary Betsie Valley Elementary
- BreeAnna Beyette Custodian Crystal Lake Elementary
- Ashley Laing Secondary Teacher -Social Studies
- H. Retirements:
- Holly Zirkel Amended retirement date June 30, 2022
- Anne Fitch-Clark- Amended retirement date June 30, 2022
- I. Tentative Transportation Agreement Superintendent Erfourth shared the following tentative agreement: Two bonuses during the 2022/23 school year, an amount paid of \$2500.00 in December and an amount paid of \$2500.00 in June for a total of \$5000.00. This is for full time bus drivers only. In conjunction with the bonus, would be an in increase of \$11,000.00 paid by the district per couple, and \$15,000.00 per family for the MESSA essentials package. This is for the 2022/23 school year only.

Board of Education/Committee Reports -

- A. Buildings and Grounds Committee
 - Bond Project Updates Board of Education President, Nicki Brown, shared that the bleachers are installed and complete. The Central Business Office has carpet and paint. The CBO bathroom will be finished this coming week. Concessions and team room need ductwork, paint, and floors. There is no contractor for the concession cabinets. Working

- to get Flairwood or another vendor to address this. The nurse's station and social worker space have flooring. Paint is complete in the social workspace. Wall repair is still needed in the nurse's station. Also waiting on a door. Flooring has been completed in classrooms. Resinous flooring will go in this week in the art room. Hallway flooring has been patched. Cafeteria ceilings are almost completed. Painter should be in next week to paint. Waiting on storefront aluminum and electrical. The weight room has footings and walls are being poured. The locker room continues to have masonry work and finishing up between shower stalls. Delayed due to lentils which arrived last week. The floor in the mezzanine is going in. Waiting on the handrails. Homestead Hills Elementary gym and kitchen walls are the focus. Working to get all exterior walls up so AJ's Excavating can backfill. Betsie Valley Elementary doors have arrived but we are waiting on hardware. Lake Ann Elementary addition now has a steel deck. Hoping to have roof installed next week and exterior walls going on. The Interior classroom may be utilized this fall if the fire marshal approves the plan presented by Kingscott.
- 2. Building Use Forms, Procedures, and Fees Update Superintendent Erfourth shared that the district is moving toward the program Sys Aid that Northwest Ed. currently uses. The cost is \$428 per administrator approver. Technology team Bernie Killeen and Kevin Kobylski, will move toward migrating forms once classroom set up and chromebook cleaning has taken place.
- B. Policy Committee -
 - Policy 5209 Student Use of Cell Phone and Electronic Communication Devices – Superintendent Erfourth shared that Thrun advised we use option 2 and include language allowing them to be used at lunch. This change was made and approved last month and this policy is posted.
 - 2. July 2022 Thrun Policy Update Summary The Board of Education received the summary on July 17 at their special meeting, as well as electronically for review. Superintendent Erfourth shared that most changes were stylistic changes, several policy changes had sunsetted language due to remote/virtual options.
 - 3. Policy 3301A Purchasing and Procurement with Federal Funds-Superintendent Erfourth shared that this is a subset to 3301. The purchasing of goods/services using federal dollars used to be included in 3301 but Thrun took it out and created a sub-policy that addresses purchasing with federal funds now called 3301A.
 - 4. Policy 4227 False Medicaid Claims. NEW and is OPTIONAL. Superintendent Erfourth shared that our special education teachers bill for services that Medicaid reimburses. They work with Northwest Education to recoup funds. The Northwest Ed. adopted this policy. Since we participate in the billing of Medicaid, this would be a policy to consider.
- C. Finance Committee –Board of Education Treasurer, Jason Barnard No Update

- D. Educational Foundation Superintendent Erfourth No Update. Next meeting will be held on September 21, 2022.
- E. Liaison/Curriculum –Trustee, Lori Cota Hill No Update.
- F. Negotiations Superintendent Erfourth shared that we will be taking action on the 2022-2024 BCCEA Master Teacher Agreement. Please note this is a two-year agreement 2022-2024. Not 2022-2025 as reflected on the agenda. Superintendent Erfourth shared that the teacher's union agreed to a 2-year contract with a 2% for each year of the contract, step 25+ will get a 1% and 1% annuity payment, option to increase another 1% if we increase enrollment by 50 kids (to 1250) by fall count day, vocal music will be paid at 8% instead of 4%, a sick bank can be created, early retirement incentive included (\$50/day by March 1, \$40/day by April 1, \$30/day by May 1, \$25/day after) for sick day payout, PAK B will be paid at 100%. The association is looking into adding alternative MESSA products for members to elect.

Audience Participation (Agenda Items Only) – Katie Gottardo, 1192 Michigan Ave. Benzonia, MI. spoke in front of the Board of Education. She shared that she is the proud parent to two Crystal Lake Elementary students who participate in many activities. Her husband is a coach in our district, and she volunteers and is involved with the school in many ways. She shared how she and her family were in full support of this district, until an incident occurred in April of 2022. She shared her concerns with a district employee and the alleged misconduct that resulted in a Title IX. Mrs. Gottardo asked that the Board of Education terminate this employee, stating that any other action would be negligent.

Ashley Lindstrom, 6536 Center Rd., Thomsonville, MI. spoke in front of the Board of Education. As a Betsie Valley Elementary teacher, she is requesting to take a leave of absence for the 2022/23 school year to open up a child care facility in Thompsonville this fall. She is a 2011 Benzie Central graduate, and stated that she is lucky to work in our district and in the school where her teachers helped raise her. She is wanting to something good in a community that needs her.

Sharyl Corey, 1569 Nightingale Lane, Kingsley, MI. spoke in front of the Board of Education as the Principal of Betsie Valley Elementary and in support of Ashley Lindstrom. Sharyl shared that Ashley was a valuable asset to her building as well as the community. Mrs. Corey would very much like her to be able to return to her position as she takes a year off to fulfill her mission.

Discussion Topics: NONE

Action Topics:

22-23-022 It was moved by Ms. Cota Hill and supported by Mrs. Johnston to approve the Early Childhood Handbook; Including Infant/Toddler.

Ayes: 6 Nays: 0 Motion Carried

22-23-023 It was moved by Mrs. Johnston and supported by Mrs. Pomper to approve the School Wellness Program Agreement – Nurse & Social Worker.

Ayes: 6 Nays: 0 Motion Carried

22-23-024 It was moved by Mrs. Johnston and supported by Ms. Cota Hill to approve the Community Eligibility Provision (CEP) – Free/Reduced Lunch Update.

Ayes: 6 Nays: 0 Motion Carried

22-23-025 It was moved by Ms. Cota Hill and supported by Mr. Childs to approve the Mechanic Contract Update.

Ayes: 6 Nays: 0 Motion Carried

22-23-026 It was moved by Mr. Noffsinger and supported by Mr. Childs to approve the Athletic Director Contract Update.

Ayes: 6 Nays: 0 Motion Carried

22-23-027 It was moved by Mrs. Johnston and supported by Ms. Cota Hill to approve the July 2022 Thrun Policy Update Summary.

Ayes: 6 Nays:0 Motion Carried

22-23-028 It was moved by Ms. Cota Hill and supported by Ms. Cota Mrs. Johnston to approve Policy 3301A Purchasing and Procurement of Federal Funds.

Ayes: 6 Nays: 0 Motion Carried

22-23-029 It was moved by Mrs. Johnston and supported by Ms. Cota Hill to approve Policy 4227 False Medicaid Claims.

Ayes: 6 Nays: 0 Motion Carried

22-23-030 It was moved by Mr. Noffsinger and supported by Mrs. Johnston to approve the 2022-2024 BCCEA Master Teacher Agreement. This is amended as it is a two-year agreement through 2024, not 2025.

Ayes: 6 Nays: 0 Motion Carried

22-23-031 It was moved by Ms. Cota Hill and supported by Mr. Childs to approve the Leave of Absence of Ashley Lindstrom for the 2022/23 school year.

Ayes: 6 Nays: 0 Motion Carried

22-23-032 It was moved by Mrs. Johnston and supported by Ms. Cota Hill to approve the Transportation Tentative Agreement as presented.

Ayes: 6 Nays: 0 Motion Carried

Audience Participation (<u>Open Topics</u>): Sharyl Corey, 1569 Nightingale lane, Kingsley, MI. spoke in front of the Board of Education. Mrs. Corey shared how grateful she was that the Board of Education was allowing this opportunity for Ashley, as she was not like to lose a good teacher.

Board Communication: NONE

Announcements:

- August 29, 30, 31 Teacher Professional Development
- August 31 | Open House Elementary 5:00 PM, 6th grade 6:00 PM, 7th-12th grade.
 grade 6:30 PM
- September 6 First Day of School
- September 12 Board of Education meeting

22-23-033 It was moved by Mr. Noffsinger and supported by Mr. Childs to adjourn the regular meeting 8:06 PM.

Ayes: 6 Nays: 0 Motion Carried

Secretary, Board of Education

Please note that August 15, 2022 Regular Board Minutes are subject for approval on September 12, 2022.

Respectfully Submitted,
Catina Crossman
Executive Assistant to the Superintendent
Board of Education Administrative Assistant
Benzie County Central Schools