

REGULAR MEETING

A Regular meeting of the Benzie County Central Board of Education was held Monday, December 12, 2022, in the Board of Education Conference Room.

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

Members Present: Mrs. Brown, Mr. Noffsinger, Mr. Childs, Mr. Barnard, Mrs. Johnston, Mr. Gray, Gloria Stepanovich (non-voting member)

Members Absent: Ms. Cota Hill

Our New School Resource Officer, Deputy Matt McKinley, introduced himself. Mr. McKinley is a great addition to our district, and we are very fortunate to have him.

22-23-054 It was moved by Mr. Childs and supported by Mr. Barnard to approve the agenda, amending Administration Report E. to add JV and Varsity, as well as Action Item D. to add JV and Varsity.

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.

22-23-055 It was moved by Mrs. Johnston and supported by Mr. Childs to approve Consent Grouping items as presented.

A. Minutes: November 14, 2022 Regular

B. Business: General Fund Bills – \$2,598,688.51

C. Support Staff Appointments:

- Olivia Miller - 6.5 Paraprofessional – Middle/High School

- Chaz Grundy – Freshmen Boys Basketball Coach

D. Staff Assignment Changes: NONE

E. Leave of Absence: NONE

Ayes: 6

Nays: 0

Motion Carried

District Impact Team Update: Board of Education Secretary, Stephanie Johnston shared the following:

1. Lake Ann presented their problem of practice which is how can all staff at LA be intentional with our SEL practices within the classroom/school in order to increase our students' academic efficacy and outcomes, especially for our underperforming students.

2. **TCR/ PLC Update was given. Growing pains are expected and it will require a change of culture to realize everyone can benefit from a mentor or coach.**
3. **We are currently looking at all special education data to see that progress is being made as part of General Supervision Program. Dates are being scheduled for SE Data Review at the individual elementary buildings. MS/HS is a slightly different process. All must be done by mid-December.**
4. **Early Childhood Literacy data was presented and the DIT learned about the expectations for 3-4yos.**
5. **The HS/MS presented their problem of practice related to the new cell phone policy in the school handbook. Based on data how can we improve the effectiveness of the policy, and the adversarial relationship we have with students when addressing this issue.**
6. **Crystal Lake presented their problem of practice which is their existing behavior data has limited relevance for decision-making. How do they collect a larger amount of data without losing focus (on positive supports and on restorative practices) or sacrificing its reliability (multiple authors leads to reduced calibration).**
7. **ISSN Update - ISSN is working through determining how it fits in the bigger system. ISSN will utilize CASEL's framework to drive future work.**

Student Council Report: Student Council Board of Education Representative, Gloria Stepanovich shared that the student council will be hosting Christmas activities on December 21, the half day leading into the holiday break. Snowcoming dates are being discussed, and she was pleased to announce that the NHS Versiti Blood Drive was extremely successful.

Administration Report:

- A. **NMSLA – Superintendent Erfourth shared that Lame Duck was pretty lame. Mostly exit speeches. Not much really came to light. Dyslexia bill did not make it to the floor for a vote. Robert Lefevre from MCAN came to share information regarding the Michigan Achievement Scholarship. More information to follow and packets will be coming to guidance counselors. January and May revenue estimating conference.
Hoping to meet in Lansing in February to hear about the plans for the budget.**
- B. **High School Gym Floor Update | Community Survey Results – Superintendent Erfourth – Superintendent Erfourth shared that 258 people took the high school and elementary gym floors survey. For the high school, 66% chose Option B: Red Lettering with White around the edges. For Homestead Hills, Option A was the preferred design, with the BC Logo in the center, and the Husky logos on each end.**

High School

BENZIE CENTRAL HIGH SCHOOL FLOOR LAYOUT - B

ALL COLORS AND STAINS MAY NOT BE PERFECT REPRESENTATIONS. STAIN SHOWN ABOVE INTENDED TO REPRESENT FCC COLOR. *Classical*

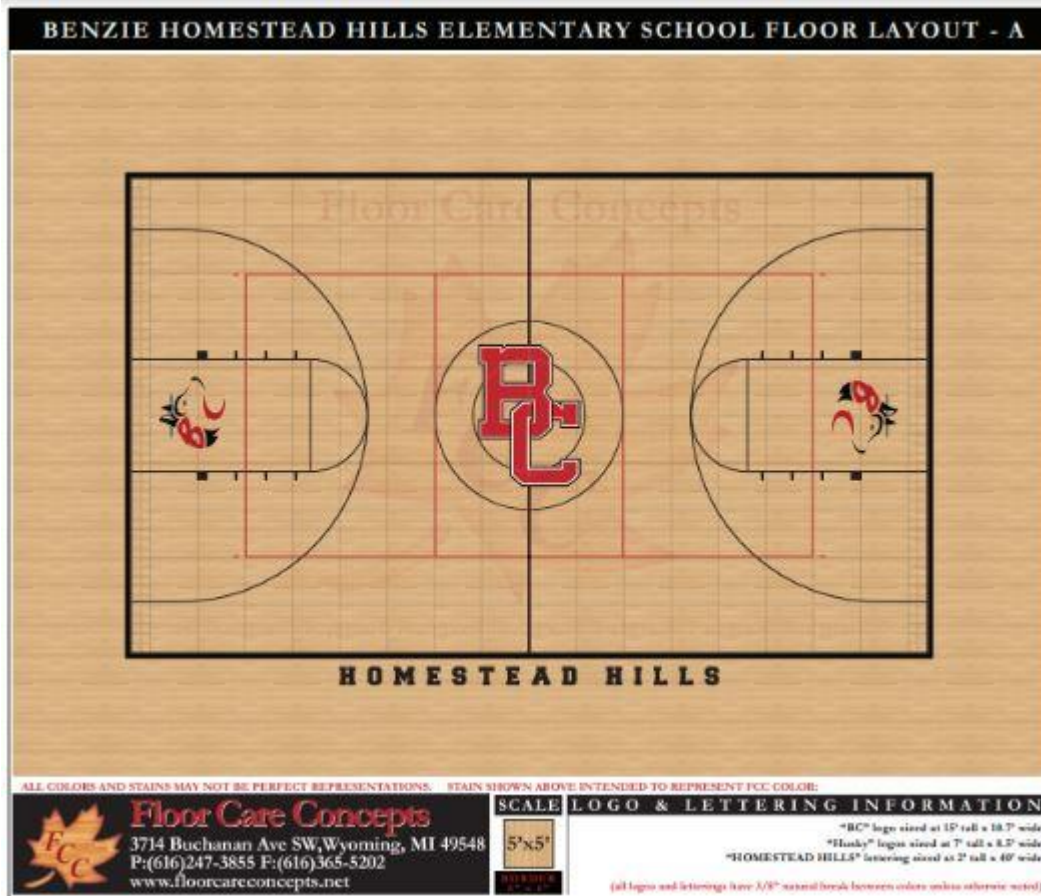
Floor Care Concepts
3714 Buchanan Ave SW, Wyoming, MI 49548
P: (616) 247-3855 F: (616) 365-5202
www.floorcareconcepts.net

SCALE 5'x5' **LOGO & LETTERING INFORMATION**

*HOME OF THE HUSKIES

(All logos and lettering have 1/8" natural break between colors unless otherwise noted)

Homestead Hills Elementary



Superintendent shared that last week, while tearing up the floor, they encountered some questionable material matter in the tar paper and glue. Test results confirmed asbestos. Abatement is to begin December 27, and will last roughly three weeks. Mrs. Erfourth plans to notify parents tomorrow. As a result, this will delay the original gym floor deadline by roughly a month. Wolgast Construction Manager, Chris Kuhl added that the air will be monitored, it is not air born, and there is no harm to the building.

- C. Wolgast Update – Wolgast Construction Manager, Chris Kuhl – Chris shared that the Lake Ann Elementary addition is moving along smoothly. There were hiccups with fire alarm, but are looking for approval on the 20 and 21, with the final inspection from the fire marshal to follow. The weight room lights and grids are in. The flooring has been ordered and will be shipping this week. Sidewalks are starting to be poured. Homestead Hills Elementary is moving along. Hoping for an inspection at the beginning of the year. We will begin to start hanging drywall. Site work continues, and we hope to be enclosed by mid to late January. The one potential hang up anticipated is the main distribution electrical panel. There is a 50-60-week lead time. Ship date is July 27, with back up generator ship date being September 18.

D. Sign Quotes for Homestead Hills Elementary and Weight Room – Brendon Pollard, Project Director for Kingscott solicited quotes for three signage projects from the following vendors:

- **Attitude and Experience of Traverse City, Michigan**
- **Signplicity Sign Systems of Traverse City, Michigan**
- **Universal Sign Systems of Grand Rapids, Michigan**

After review, Mr. Pollard recommends the following:

That the Board of Education award the contract for Exterior Dimensional Letters at Homestead Hills Elementary School to Signplicity Sign Systems of Traverse City, Michigan in the amount of:

Four Thousand, Eight Hundred Thirty-Five dollars and Seventy-Seven cents (\$4,835.77).

That the Board of Education award the contract for Monument Sign at Homestead Hills Elementary School to Signplicity Sign Systems of Traverse City, Michigan in the amount of:

Twelve Thousand, Five Hundred Seventy dollars and Twenty-Six cents (\$12,570.26).

That the Board of Education award the contract for Exterior Lit Channel Letters at Benzie Central High School to Signplicity Sign Systems of Traverse City, Michigan in the amount of:

Six Thousand, One Hundred Fifty-Seven dollars and No cents (\$6,157.00).

The total for all three contracts is Twenty-Three Thousand, Five Hundred Sixty-Three dollars and Three cents (\$23,563.03). This does not include electrical.

E. MS/JV/Varsity Softball – Spring Training Trip 2023 – Katie Johnston and Candice Swander – Varsity Softball Coach, Scott Brautigam shared the itinerary with the Board of Education. The trip would take place March 25 through April 1. Lodging would be in Pigeon Forge, TN. Estimated trip cost is \$550.00-\$600.00. There will be Raffle Ticket Sales and a Spaghetti Dinner and Silent Auction at Mills Community House to help offset the cost.

F. Life Skills Update – Benzie Pride Quilt Presentation – Jill Bradford – Mrs. Bradford, along with her TA, Katie Quick presented the Benzie Pride Quilt to the Board of Education. The quilt was made out of Benzie Central t-shirts. They are hoping to connect with Superintendent Erfourth to display the quilt in a showcase. Mrs. Bradford also added on the success of the Crystal Mountain work co-op and shared that it was exploding as we move into next summer.

G. Middle School and High School Athletic Update – Athletic Director, Eli Harris – Athletic Director Harris shared the following update with the Board of Education; High School and Middle School Participation.

High School

SPORT	BOYS	GIRLS	TOTAL
FOOTBALL	40	1	41
CROSS COUNTRY	16	15	31
SOCCER	13	0	13
VOLLEYBALL	0	27	27
CHEERLEADING	0	3	3
TOTAL	69	46	115

Middle School

SPORT	BOYS	GIRLS	TOTAL
FOOTBALL	19	0	19
POP WARNER (6TH)	12		12
CROSS COUNTRY	7	8	15
SOCCER	8	0	8
VOLLEYBALL	0	20	20
CHEERLEADING	0	5	5
TOTAL	45	33	79

Currently, there are 340 students enrolled in the high school. Out of the 115 athletes, 3 are Academy students. This indicates that 33% of our high school student body and 4% of the Academy (73) were involved in athletics for the fall sports season.

Currently, there are 261 students enrolled in the middle school. Out of the 79 athletes, 0 are Academy students. This indicates that 30% of our middle school student body and 0% of the Academy (5) were involved in athletics for the fall sports season.

**Fall Awards Recognition
All-Conference Selections (28)**

Soccer:

1st team

Steve Barron (Midfielder)

Dominic Lopez (Goaltender)

Honorable Mention

Alberto Lopez

Volleyball:

1st team

Ava Bechler

2nd team

Autumn Wallington

Honorable Mention

Flora Zickert

Cross Country:

Boys 1st team

Hunter Jones (Conference Champion-undefeated in 4 years)

Pol Mollins

Dade Allen

2nd Team

Dorian Olson

Honorable Mention

Landon Harris

Hudson Kitely

Ethin Chandler

Girls 1st team

Mylie Kelly

Nora Grossnickle

Bianca Delogu

2nd team

Ava Iverson

Cambrie Lawrence

Football:

1st Team

Jaxon Childers WR

Cael Katt DB

Honorable Mention

Dalton Geetings DB

JJ Koscielski LB

Dan Wallington QB

Michael Pfeiffer LB

Tyrone Brouillet RB

Liam Jones DL
Wyatt Noffsinger OL
Steve Barron K

Record-Eagle Dream Team (10)

Cross Country
Mylie Kelly
Nora Grossnickle
Bianco Delogu
Hunter Jones Team Captain (RE Runner of the Year)
Pol Mollins

Volleyball
Ava Bechler

Football
Jaxon Childers
Cael Katt
Soccer

Dominic Lopez
Steve Barron

All-Region Selections (9)

Volleyball:
Ava Bechler
Autumn Wallington

Cross Country:
Hunter Jones (Regional Champ Undefeated for 4 years)
Pol Mollins
Mylie Kelly
Nora Grossnickle
Bianca Delogu

Football:
Jaxon Childers
Cael Katt

All-State Selections (4)

Hunter Jones
Pol Mollins
Mylie Kelly
Jaxon Childers 1st-team AP All State Wide Receiver (1st 1st teamer since 2004)

State Champions

Hunter Jones 4 x State Champion Final HS Record 51-3

Mr. Cross Country State of Michigan

#1 ranked runner in the country by numerous publications

Academic All-State (12)

Volleyball:

Shelby Bentley

Stella Hewitt

Rylee Lane

Gloria Stepanovich

Kylee Stoike

Autumn Wallington

Cross Country:

Hunter Jones

Dorian Olson

Mylie Kelly

Football:

Cael Katt

Wyatt Noffsinger

Kaden Scheiffele

Team Academic All-State

Volleyball

Football

H. 2023/24 MS and HS Course Catalogs Update – Principal, Kyle Taylor – Principal Taylor shared the proposed course updates.

- **Applied Science [\(Click Link for Description\)](#)**
- **Child Development Pathway - This class will explore child development through eight competency standards including: Planning a safe and healthy learning environment, advancing children’s physical and intellectual development, supporting children’s social and emotional development, building productive relationships with families, managing an effective program, maintaining a commitment to professionalism, observing and recording children’s behavior, and understanding principles of child development and learning. The successful completion of this course would give the student the necessary education hours to apply for a Child Development Associate (CDA) credential.**
- **Financial Literacy**
- **Work Study - Co-op Opportunities with Local Businesses**

- I. **Sickness Handbook Update – Superintendent Erfourth – Superintendent Erfourth shared that the following Sickness Handbook with the Board of Education [Sickness Handbook](#)**
- J. **2021/22 Audit Update – Director of Finance, Justin Weston – Mr. Weston shared that we are in the final stretch to have the audit completed. The final audit will be filed before the end of the month. Each year the District is presented with Corrective Action Plans, we have four this year. Justin Weston, Finance Director reviewed each of the four corrective actions, the first two are repeats due to the small size of the District. The third speaks to the software issues causing delays in the audit. The final corrective action addresses filing the audit late for the November and December deadlines.**
- K. **Linq School Accounting Software – Director of Finance, Justin Weston - Justin Weston, Finance Director presented information on new Business Office software, which addresses the Corrective Action Plan listed in the audit. Three companies have been contacted, Powerschool, Linq, and Tyler Technologies. Powerschool stated that our District is too small, Tyler Technologies has been contacted multiple times via email and phone, but has not responded to our requests for information. Linq provided the CBO with a demo of their ERP software. Linq provides several modules that include Accounting Solutions including Bank Reconciliation, Document Management, State Reporting, Budget Preparation, Employee Portal, Time Clock Interface, and cloud hosting services. First year for complete rollout will be approximately \$67,344.50 and the next two years will cost \$17,325.75 for the services we're requesting. The cost of the current software is about \$8k, but the gains in efficiencies are well worth the investment.**
- L. **Budget Amendment #1- Director of Finance, Justin Weston - Justin Weston, Finance Director, began by reviewing the tax levy rates approved in June 2022. The District originally budgeted for an increase to the foundation allowance of \$300, but the state budget included an increase of \$450 per pupil. The district planned for 1,200 pupils, we currently stand at 1,236 which equates to about \$500k more in funding for the District. Overall revenue increased from \$16,407,578 to \$17,554,243 mostly due to increased pupil counts, additional foundation funding, additional at-risk funds, and insurance proceeds from claims for the year. Expenditures increased from \$15,746,882 to 17,395,562 due to contract and insurance negotiation increases completed after the adoption of the FY23 budget. Mr. Weston explained that the District continues to set aside excess fund balance to save for long-term capital improvements, replacement technology, curriculum, buses/vehicles, athletics/band, and furniture/equipment. The sinking fund, debt, early childhood, food service, and activities accounts were also reviewed. For FY22, the District spent 75% of funds on employee salary and benefits. An additional 5% from function 3000 Purchased Services include third party employees making 80% of the District budget going to staffing. There is an additional \$737k of ESSER III funding available, but the District is already planning to spend those funds to continue to pay for the**

Interventionist positions in the District. Budget planning for FY24 will begin in January 2023.

M. Superintendent Goals Update – Superintendent Erfourth -Superintendent Erfourth shared the following [Growth Goal Update](#).

N. Resignations:

- Lauren Lightfoot - Early Childhood Administrative Assistant | 6-12 Registrar
- Matthew Chandler – Freshmen Boys Basketball Coach
- David Egeler- Middle School Wrestling Coach
- Ashley Knox – 6.5 Paraprofessional – Crystal Lake Elementary -Effective January 6, 2023.
- Mark Wassa – JV Girls Softball Coach

O. Retirements: NONE

Board of Education/Committee Reports –

A. Buildings and Grounds Committee –

1. Bond Project Updates – Board of Education Trustee, Brian Childs, shared that Superintendent Erfourth, along with the CORE team met with the higher ups from Kingscott and Wolgast. Since the meeting, he feels that the ship is beginning to turn around and get back on schedule with the help of Chris Kuhl. He thanked Chris for his effort and time with moving things along. The next Building and Grounds meeting is Wednesday, December 14. Homestead Hills Elementary work continues with sheet metal, roofing, and exterior walls continuing. Electrical and plumbing are following the roof work. Weight room has windows and is waiting on the floor install. Ceilings are being completed. Lake Ann Elementary addition has cabinetry, toilets, plumbing fixtures and tile walls and completed floors. Classroom floors will go in next week. Betsie Valley Elementary will have work done over Christmas break- new electrical panel installed and overhead hangers for plumbing. High School Cafeteria will be painted over break and light fixture rings will be replaced. Still waiting on an acoustical inspection. Painting will also happen in the corridors. The locker room is almost ready; a few small punch list items remain.
2. Construction Update – Board of Education Trustee, Scott Gray – Please see A 1.

B. Policy Committee – Superintendent Erfourth shared with the Board of Education Policy 3301 Purchasing and Procurement, with the following suggested updated language: *The Board of Education gives the Superintendent authority to make purchases up to the bid threshold without Board of Education approval.*

C. Finance Committee –Board of Education Treasurer, Jason Barnard shared there is no report as Director of Finance, Justin Weston gave several updates this evening.

D. Educational Foundation – Superintendent Erfourth shared that the November 16 meeting has been moved to January.

- E. **Liaison/Curriculum –Vice President, Lori Cota Hill – Ms. Cota Hill was not in attendance. Superintendent Erfourth shared that the biggest take away was that liaison members from each building will try and meet monthly with their building administrators to improve communication.**
- F. **Negotiations – Superintendent Erfourth shared that this is to resolve the COVID-19 language that was included in the contract. This will resolve the concern and limit the days to 5 per COVID occurrence and will sunset at the end of the 2022-2023 school year.**

Audience Participation (Agenda Items Only) – Amber Pomper, 6803 Rayle Rd. -Lake Ann – Amber inquired as to whether or not head lice was included in the Sickness Handbook.

She questioned if the proposed new financial software would eliminate paper time cards, and allow for electronic entry.

She added that she really would like to see teachers have more time to build relationships vs. paperwork.

John Marshall introduced himself. He graduated from Benzie in 1974, and was a teacher at Betsie Valley Elementary when it was closed down in the 80’s. With that, he shared he went back to college, got a degree and practiced Dentistry for 35 years. John shared that he has begun substitute teaching for Benzie Central. He feels with have some magnificent, highly-regarded educators. John feels that society and culture have changed, and COVID-19 has disrupted lifestyles. He would like to see Professional Development geared around classroom management.

Discussion Topics: President Brown spoke about the New Board Orientation. She shared the proposed [Board Member Handbook](#) with the Board of Education.

Action Topics:

22-23-056 It was moved by Mrs. Johnston and supported by Mr. Childs to approve the sign quotes for Homestead Hill Elementary and the Weight Room, going with the recommended Signplicity bids. Trustee Noffsinger was not clear as to why we were doing this right now. He felt it should have been taken care of earlier.

Ayes: 5

Nays: 1

Motion Carried

22-23-057 It was moved by Mrs. Johnston and supported by Mr. Barnard to approve the high school gym floor scope of work and design options; Option B for the high school design (red lettering with white outline), and Option A for Homestead Hills Elementary; BC in the center, with the Husky Logo on both ends.

Ayes: 6

Nays: 0

Motion Carried

22-23-058 It was moved by Mr. Barnard and supported by Mr. Gray to approve the MS/JV/HS Softball Spring Training trip 2023.

Ayes: 6

Nays: 0

Motion Carried

22-23-059 It was moved by Mrs. Johnston and supported by Mr. Childs to approve the 2023/24 Middle School and High School Course Catalogs.

Ayes: 6 **Nays: 0** **Motion Carried**

22-23-060 It was moved by Mrs. Johnston and supported by Mr. Barnard to approve the Sickness Handbook Update.

Ayes: 6 **Nays: 0** **Motion Carried**

22-23-061 It was moved by Mr. Barnard and supported by Mr. Childs to approve the Linq Accounting Software.

Ayes: 6 **Nays: 0** **Motion Carried**

22-23-062 It was moved by Mr. Barnard and supported by Mr. Gray to approve Budget Amendment #1.

Ayes: 6 **Nays: 0** **Motion Carried**

22-23-063 It was moved by Mr. Barnard and supported by Mrs. Johnston to approve the updated language in Policy 3301 *Purchasing and Procurement*

Ayes: 6 **Nays: 0** **Motion Carried**

22-23-064 It was moved by Mrs. Johnston and supported by Mr. Noffsinger to approve the Paraprofessional Letter of Agreement.

Ayes: 5 **Nays: 1** **Motion Carried**

Audience Participation (Open Topics): – Amber Pomper, 6803 Rayle Rd. -Lake Ann- Amber shared her appreciation for having the opportunity to serve on the Board of Education with all members. She thanked Stephanie Johnston for all of her guidance, and thanked Nicki for being a mentor and for all of her hard work. Amber shared that Nicki has a passion for service and dedication to the children and families in our district. The new members have big shoes to fill.

Board Communication: Superintendent Erfourth and the members of the Board of Education recognized both Stephanie Johnston and Nicki Brown for their years of service and dedication.

Trustee, Brian thanked Stephanie Johnston for her time, stating they worked well together and would always find common ground. Brian shared that the district owes her for all she has done. With that, Brian also thanked Nicki, adding that the community missed the mark on the November election. He emphasized her work helping to pass the bond, as well as her countless hours serving on the CORE committee. He too wonders how these new members are going to fill her shoes. There will be a lag in what we do and how we function going forward.

Announcements:

1. **Holiday Choir Concert – December 15 – 7:00 PM**
2. **Early Release – December 21**
3. **Holiday Break – December 22- January 3**
4. **Organizational Meeting – January 9 – 6:30 PM. Regular Board
of Education Meeting – January 9 – 7:00 PM**

22-23-065 It was moved by Mrs. Brown and supported by Mrs. Johnston to adjourn the regular meeting 9:59 pm.

Ayes: 6

Nays: 0

Motion Carried

Secretary, Board of Education

Please note that December 12, 2022 Regular Board Minutes are subject for approval on January 9, 2023.

Respectfully Submitted,

Catina Crossman

Executive Assistant to the Superintendent

Board of Education Administrative Assistant

Benzie County Central Schools