

## SPECIAL MEETING

A Special meeting of the Benzie County Central Board of Education was held Monday, June 26, 2023, in the Board of Education Conference Room.

President Childs called the meeting to order at 6:05 pm.

Members Present: Mr. Childs, Mr. Barnard, Mrs. Gillison, Mr. Smith, Mr. Noffsinger

Members Absent: Ms. Cota Hill, Mr. Gray, Gloria Stepanovich (non-voting member)

22-23-150 It was moved by Mr. Barnard and supported by Mr. Smith to approve the agenda as presented.

Ayes: 5

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.

22-23-151 It was moved by Mr. Smith and supported by Mr. Barnard to approve Consent Grouping items as presented. NONE

Ayes: 5

Nays: 0

Motion Carried

District Impact Team Update: NONE

Student Council Report: NONE

### Administration Report:

- A. Protocols for Board/Superintendent Communication – The Board of Education was provided the current Protocols for Board/Superintendent Communication, with one addition to number 6 under Board of Education Members to Superintendent: When appropriate, *Board members will let the Superintendent or Building Administrator know of concerns reported to them and who they referred the concern back to in the chain.* Proper procedure is for the Board of Education to direct all concerns to teacher, principal or superintendent whether face to face dialogue or email with a formal unified Board of Education response. The Board of Education can answer general questions. President Childs reiterated that he will always give the individual the why, and will follow up as to whether or not they received an answer. He feels that they as the Board of Education represent the community as they were voted in.
- B. Hiring Process for New Employees – Superintendent asked if the Board of Education was still in support of the current process, or were they asking for a change. President Childs shared that past practice was to approve each

individual hire, prior to having all but administration hires moved under consent grouping. He questioned at what level does the Board of Education want or not want to have any input. Trustee, Smith questioned as to why they would have any input on recommendation for hires. It was decided that the Board of Education would like the names of Administration and Director applicants prior to interviews going forward, so that any concerns can be dealt with through the chain of command, rather than after the recommendation for hire. President Childs added that there were passionate opinions about the Director of Curriculum recommendation for hire, not the position itself. He feels that if the Board of Education deals with these potential Administrative and Director applicants with information and knowledge ahead of time, this most recent issue could have been handled before the fact.

- C. Board of Education Committees for 2023/2024 are as follows: [2023/2024 Board of Education Committees](#). Both Treasurer, Scott Gray and Secretary, Chris Noffsinger have been added to the custodial and transportation negotiation committees.
- D. Resignations:
- NONE
- E. Retirements:
- NONE

**Board of Education/Committee Reports –**

- A. Buildings and Grounds Committee – No Update
- B. Policy Committee – No Update
- C. Finance Committee –No Update
- D. Educational Foundation – Superintendent Erfourth – No Update.
- E. Liaison/Curriculum –Trustee, Lori Cota Hill – No Update
- F. Negotiations – Superintendent Erfourth – No Update
- G. Benzie Academy – Trustee, Lori Cota Hill – No Update

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

**Discussion Topics:**

- A. President Childs asked that the Board of Education start thinking about January 2024 dates to hold the Board of Education Retreat. He would like a decision at the July 10, 2023 Regular meeting.

**Action Topics:**

22-23-152 It was moved by Mr. Barnard and supported by Mr. Noffsinger to approve the Protocols for Board/Superintendent Communication.

**Ayes: 5**

**Nays: 0**

**Motion Carried**

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

**Board Communication: NONE**

**Announcements:**

- **Regular Board of Education Meeting – Budget Hearing – June 26 – 7:00 PM**

**22-23-153** It was moved by Mr. Noffsinger and supported by Mr. Smith to adjourn the special meeting at 7:18 pm.

**Ayes: 5**

**Nays: 0**

**Motion Carried**

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**Secretary, Board of Education**

***Please note that the June 26, 2023 Special Board Minutes are subject for approval on July 10, 2023***

***Respectfully Submitted,***

***Catina Crossman***

***Executive Assistant to the Superintendent***

***Board of Education Administrative Assistant***

***Director of Communications***

***Benzie County Central Schools***