

## REGULAR MEETING

A Regular meeting of the Benzie County Central Board of Education was held Monday, June 23, 2025 in the Board of Education Conference Room.

**Budget Review – 6:30 pm**

2025 tax rate request form was shown which has the taxable value of \$624,692,561. This is the number including non-homestead properties where we get our operational dollars that is subject to 18 mills, commercial property is subject to 6 mills. This is our main source of funding.

A slide show was shown about school funding. \$9,608 was our per pupil funding for FY25. It is not known yet what the per-pupil funding will be for FY26. For 24-25 year we got bids for propane to reduce that spend, renegotiated garbage contracts, reviewed contracted services, eliminated one admin position and 1 high school teaching position. A more conservative budget approach is being taken for FY26 budget planning. A \$30,000 grant was applied for to go towards curriculum purchases. Applied for the COPS grant for 800 mhz radios to outfit our buses with these radios for community emergency response and direct communication with emergency services. It is possible we will receive a 2% revenue from the gaming machines from the new casino in Benzonia. We have a sponsorship for our athletic trainer to help pay for that service. Since we do not have a budget from the state yet, we are planning for the worst-case scenario, conservatively. It is possible that we may go out of formula depending on what the state decides to do for the budget. This would still keep our fund balance above the required amount.

President Childs called the meeting to order at 7:09 pm.

**Members Present:** Mrs. Gillison, Mr. Smith, Mrs. Campana, Mr. Kempton, Mr. Childs, Mr. Egeler

**Members Absent:** Mr. Barnard, Piper Barnard (non-voting member)

**24-25-128** It was moved by Mr. Kempton and supported by Mr. Smith to approve the agenda with the following amendments: Agenda was amended under action topics to remove F. as there is a meeting with Williams & Williams soon regarding non-union compensations and that will affect Amiee's contract. Also moved to add under action topics item G. (F.) Approval of Alpine Educational consulting for strategic planning for our district.  
**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.

**24-25-129** It was moved by Mrs. Campana and supported by Mr. Smith to approve Consent Grouping items as presented.

- A. Minutes: NONE
- B. Business: NONE
- C. Support Staff Appointments:
  - NONE
- D. Staff Assignment Changes:
  - NONE
- E. Leave of Absence:
  - NONE
- F. Recommendation for Tenure:
  - NONE
- G. Recommendation for Termination following Probationary Period
  - NONE
- H. Recommendation for Termination:
  - NONE
- I. Contract Updates:
  - Approval of Nonn-Union Contract – Rich Fischbach - .2 Teacher .8 Technology
  - Approval of Non-Union Counselor Contracts

Ayes: 6

Nays: 0

Motion Carried

**District Impact Team Update:** Board of Education Trustee, Matt Smith shared the following: NONE

**Student Council Report:** Student Council Board of Education Representative, Piper Barnard – NONE

**Administration Report:**

A. NMSLA – Superintendent Erfourth – NONE

B. Benzie Technology Services Agreement July 1, 2025 through June 30, 2027 – 1.0 – Contract Renewal through Northwest Education Services – Moving from a 2.0 to a 1.0.

C. 2025 Winter Tax Levy Rates - 2025 tax rate request form was shown which has the taxable value of \$624,692,561. This is the number including non-homestead properties where we get our operational dollars that is subject to 18 mills, commercial property is subject to 6 mills. This is our main source of funding.

**D. Adoption of 2025/26 Budget – Director of Finance, Danielle Banasiak - A slide show was shown about school funding to explain to all members how it works. \$9,608 was our per pupil funding for FY25. It is not known yet what the per-pupil funding will be for FY26. For 2024-2025 year we got bids for propane to reduce that spend, renegotiated garbage contracts, reviewed contracted services, eliminated one admin position and 1 high school teaching position. A more conservative budget approach is being taken for FY26 budget planning. A \$30,000 grant was applied for to go towards curriculum purchases. Applied for the COPS grant for 800 mhz radios to outfit our buses with these radios for community emergency response and direct communication with emergency services. It is possible we will receive a 2% revenue from the gaming machines from the new casino in Benzonia. We have a generous sponsorship to cover the costs of our athletic trainer and that service for 3 years. Since we do not have a budget from the state yet, we are planning for the worst-case scenario, conservatively. It is possible that we may go out of formula depending on what the state decides to do for the budget. We will still be able to keep our fund balance above the required minimum amount.**

**E. Resignations:**

- **NONE**

**F. Retirements:**

- **NONE**

**Board of Education/Committee Reports –**

**A. Buildings and Grounds Committee –**

- 1. Sinking Fund Update – NONE**
- 2. Construction Updates – NONE**
- 3. Building and Grounds Modification Requests – NONE**

**B. Policy Committee – Superintendent Erfourth – NONE**

**C. Finance Committee –Board of Education Treasurer, Matt Smith– NONE**

**D. Parent Advisory Council – Board of Education Trustee, Sue Campana – NONE**

**E. Liaison – Childs –NONE**

**F. Negotiations – Superintendent Erfourth - NONE**

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

**Discussion Topics:**

**A. Current District Enrollment Summary Review – Exit Out v. Transfer In – Executive Assistant to the Superintendent/Pupil Accounting Specialist, Catina Crossman – NONE**

**Action Topics:**

**24-25-130 It was moved by Mr. Egeler and supported by Mrs. Campana to approve the Benzie Technology Services Agreement July 1, 2025 through June 30, 2027.**

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

**24-25-131 It was moved by Mrs. Gillison and supported by Mr. Smith to approve the 2025 Winter Tax Levy Rates.**

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

**24-25-132 It was moved by Mr. Smith and supported by Mr. Egeler to approve the 2025/26 Budget.**

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

**24-25-133 It was moved by Mr. Smith and supported by Mrs. Campana to approve the CKLA 3<sup>rd</sup> Edition.**

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

**24-25-134 It was moved by Mrs. Campana and supported by Mr. Smith to approve Alpine Educational Consulting for Strategic Planning for the district.**

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

**Audience Participation (Open Topics): Sharyl Corey, 1569 Nightingale Ln, Kingsley, our Lake Ann Elementary Principal approached the podium to thank the Board of Education.**

**Board Communication:**

- **NONE**

**Announcements:**

**1. Board of Education Meeting – July 14, 2025 – 7:00 PM**

**24-25-135** It was moved by Mr. Smith and supported by Mr. Kempton to adjourn the regular meeting 8:18 pm.

**Ayes: 6**

**Nays: 0**

**Motion Carried**

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**Secretary, Board of Education**

***Please note that June 23, 2025 Regular Board Minutes are subject for approval on July 14, 2025.***

***Respectfully Submitted,***

***Shannon Gillison, Board of Education Secretary 6/23/2025***



***Catina M. Crossman***

***Executive Assistant to the Superintendent***

***Board of Education Administrative Assistant***

***Schools of Choice Coordinator***

***Pupil Accounting Specialist***

***Director of Communications***

***Benzie County Central Schools***

***Go Huskies!***