Van Buren Board of Education
Minutes of the Board of Education
Regular Meeting

January 13, 2020

The Organizational Meeting of the Board of Education was held at the Belleville High School Commons on January 13, 2020. Superintendent Kudlak called the meeting to order at 7:00pm.

Board members present: Keith Johnston, Susan Featheringill, Darlene Loyer Gerick, Simone Pinter, Calvin Hawkins, Amy Pearce and Kelly Owen. Also in attendance were Superintendent Peter Kudlak, Karen Johnston, Director of Student Services, Sara Cortese, Director of Finance, Jeff Moore, Director of Instruction, Abdul Madyun, Director of Human Resources, and James Williams, Director of Plant Operations.

First, Mr. Kudlak recognized that January is School Board Recognition Month. They were each given a small gift to say thank you for all their hard work. Next, Mr. Kudlak recognized all those businesses and people that gave back to the schools and their families this past holiday season. We are very fortunate to live in such a giving community.

Superintendent Kudlak accepted nominations for the Office of President. Keith Johnston nominated Amy Pearce. Superintendent Kudlak did a roll call and it was a 7-0 vote for Amy Pearce to become President.

Superintendent Kudlak accepted nominations for the Office of the Vice President. Simone Pinter nominated Susan Featheringill. The vote was 7-0 for Susan Featheringill to be Vice President.

Superintendent Kudlak accepted nominations for the Office of Secretary. Susan Featheringill nominated Darlene Loyer Gerick. The vote was 7-0 in favor of Darlene Loyer Gerick as Secretary.

Superintendent Kudlak accepted nominations for the Office of Treasurer. Kelly Owen nominated Simone Pinter for Treasurer. The vote was 7-0 in favor of Simone Pinter as Treasurer.

Superintendent Kudlak explained the 2020 meeting schedule presented. Motion by Susan Featheringill, support by Kelly Owen that the Van Buren Public Schools Board of Education approve the Board of Education Meetings Schedule for January through December 2020 as presented. There was discussion. Motion carried unanimously.

Sara Cortese presented the recommendation to continue to utilize PNC Bank as the depository for the District. Motion by Keith Johnston, support by Simone Pinter to approve the Depository Resolution for the 2020 year as presented. There was discussion. Motion carried unanimously.

Sara Cortese presented the recommendation to continue to authorize the Director of Finance or the Superintendent as investment authority for the District. Motion by Kelly Owen, support by Calvin Hawkins to approve the Resolution for Investment Authority for the 2020 year as presented. There was discussion. Motion carried unanimously.

President Pearce stated the need to appoint Board Members to Committee positions. She asked for volunteers. The positions were assigned accordingly:

Finance Committee:	Simone Pinter, Amy Pearce, Susan Featheringill
Policy Committee:	Calvin Hawkins, Amy Pearce, Susan Featheringill
School Improvement:	Kelly Owen, Darlene Loyer Gerick, Calvin Hawkins
Facilities Committee:	Simone Pinter, Keith Johnston, Darlene Loyer Gerick
Health Advisory:	Kelly Owen, Keith Johnston, Simone Pinter

The Reinstatement Committee will be filled by a monthly rotation of two board members.

President Pearce asked if there was any other business pertaining to the Organizational Meeting. There was not, so the meeting ended at 7:20pm.

President Pearce moved to the Regular Meeting of the Board of Education at 7:20pm.

Board members present: Keith Johnston, Susan Featheringill, Darlene Loyer Gerick, Simone Pinter, Calvin Hawkins, Amy Pearce and Kelly Owen. Also in attendance were Superintendent Peter Kudlak, Karen Johnston, Director of Student Services, Sara Cortese, Director of Finance, Jeff Moore, Director of Instruction, Abdul Madyun, Director of Human Resources, and James Williams, Director of Plant Operations.

Motion by Keith Johnston, support by Susan Featheringill, that the Board approve the agenda as presented. There was discussion. Motion carried.

Questions and comments from the audience regarding Agenda Items – None

Motion by Susan Featheringill, support by Kelly Owen, to approve the consent agenda as presented; Minutes from the Regular Meeting of December 9, 2019; Minutes from the Closed Session of December 9, 2019; Requested Changes in Instructional Staff, Kelly Zmudczynski, Edgemont Elementary Teacher for less than one year, Personal effective 12/20/19, Rodney Fisher, McBride Middle School Asst. Principal, 33 years of service, Retired, effective 12/19/19; Requested Changes in Non-Instructional Staff; Stefanie Steffes, Edgemont Elementary School, 2 years of service, Personal effective date 1/10/20, Phil Shanks, Rawsonville Elementary School, Head Custodian, 19 years of service, Retired effective date 1/31/20; and Check Register. There was discussion. Motion carried. Mr. Madyun also wanted to recognize the 2 retired employees and thank them for their many years of service. We wish both of them well in their retirement.

Separate Check Approval – None

The first administrative item was the Plante Moran CRESA - Bond Update Presentation. This was given by Rob Kakoczki from Plante Moran. Mr. Kakoczki gave an overview of the Bond and what was presented on the ballot in November. He went through each school and reviewed the scope of their projects. He also described the proposed schedule for each bond series. Series 1 will cover the construction of the new early childhood center, design the work that will occur

in 2020, hoping to be bid in the fall of 2020, with the construction also hoping to start in the fall of 2020. Series 2 will cover the playground equipment, mechanical system upgrades, security system, PA system and technology work at Savage and Tyler Elementary Schools; the completion of the scope of work to be done at Owen Intermediate School; design the work to be done in 2021; list of projects to be bid on in the fall of 2021; and construction to start in the spring of 2022. Lastly, Series 3 will cover the complete renovation scope of work to be done at Edgemont and Rawsonville Elementary Schools; classroom renovations including replacing windows and doors, restroom renovation, construction of maker space and fire alarm updates at Savage and Tyler; completion of the renovation scope of work for McBride Middle School; band bleachers and technology upgrades for Belleville High School; design work to occur in 2023; and projects to be bid in the fall of 2023 with construction to start in spring of 2024. Mr. Kakoczki also went over the progress to date that has been done so far. Information Only.

The next administrative item was the Authorizing Resolution for the 2020 School Building and Site Bonds 1 approval. Mr. Kudlak presented the information and explained what this resolution meant. Motion by Darlene Loyer Gerick, support by Keith Johnston that the Van Buren Public Schools Board of Education approve the Authorizing Resolution for the 2020 School Building and Site Bonds, Series 1 as presented. There was discussion. Motion carried unanimously.

The final Administrative Item was the Second Reading of the newest NEOLA Policy Updates. Susan Feahteringill reviewed the updates that were brought to the previous board meeting. Motion by Susan Featheringill, support by Simone Pinter that the Van Buren Public Schools Board of Education adopt the Board Policy Update #'s 0100, 3120.04, 5610, 5460, 5611, 6321, and 6325 as presented. There was discussion. Motion carried.

Questions & Comments from the Audience for Non-Agenda items – None

Cabinet Member Reports:

Soraya Taylor and Maggie Southers - BHS Students - Getting ready for the Week of Kindness the week of February 17, 2020. Also, working on the theme for this year's Prom. On January 29, 2020, Mongolian Grill in Canton will host a Senior Class fundraiser where BHS staff members will be able to cook for the patrons. The BHS band performed at the Outback Bowl over Winter Break. It was a great experience.

Pete Kudlak – Superintendent – Congrats to the BHS DECA Students. They performed well in their last competition and some even qualified for the State Competition. Micaya Cannon, McBride student, won the Patriot's Pen writing contest. Congratulations Micaya. Welcome back everyone from a well deserved break.

Karen Johnston – Director of Student Services – Working on Act 18. Also working with Mr. Moore and the Corner Health Group to get emotional health care here at our school buildings.

Sara Cortese – Director of Finance – James and I met with transportation to discuss budget for buses needed. Also working on budget changes for this year.

James Williams - Director of Plant Operations - Working on the bond program. Also working on Safety procedures and updates. Local law enforcement has to approve these changes and then it will be brought to the Board for approval.

Abdul Madyun - Director of Human Resources - Still working on Teachers' Agreement. Started negotiations with VBASA. The VBEST contract is up this year. Will start negotiating soon.

Jeff Moore - Director of Curriculum - Working on ECA program enrollment. Eastern Michigan University selects those candidates with the number of slots we have. Also working with Karen Johnston and the Corner Health Group to add support programs for students and families that need it.

Items of Business from the Members of the Board:

Calvin Hawkins – Excited to start with the new facilities. Can't wait to see these bond projects get started. Happy to see it being done in 3 series. Can't wait to see all the energy going around this community with all the upgrades that will be coming to the district.

Darlene Loyer Gerick – Ms. Gerick asked if we had gotten an update on the NJROTC inspection that took place in December. Mr. Moore replied that we were still waiting on the results but would share them as soon as he had them. Attended the Outback Bowl with the BHS Marching Band in December. There were 221 students and 21 adults. They visited 3 parks and marched in the parade. There were 1300 band members and 100 dancers/pom from 11 different schools that took the field at the Outback Bowl. It was a lot of fun to be a part of.

Simone Pinter – Attended the Santa gift sale at Edgemont. Helped students pick out gifts. Also participated in the holiday sing along at the school.

Keith Johnston – Mr. Johnston agreed with Mr. Hawkins and can't wait to get construction under way..

Motion by Keith Johnston, support by Susan Featheringill to adjourn the regular meeting. Regular session adjourned at 8:30pm.

Darlene Loyer Gerick
Board of Education Secretary

Debra McWilliams
Recording Secretary