

BUCHANAN COMMUNITY SCHOOLS, BERRIEN COUNTY, MICHIGAN

MARCH 13, 2023

REGULAR MEETING

BUCHANAN HIGH SCHOOL

CALL TO ORDER

VICE PRESIDENT: Mrs. Writer opened the meeting at 6:04pm

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Mrs. Writer led the Pledge of Allegiance.

ROLL CALL

PRESENT: C. Carlson, K. Berry (departed early at 7:02pm), J. Brackett, K. Laesch, S. Carlin, R. Writer, and H. Burnett (arrived at 6:07pm)

ABSENT: None

OTHERS PRESENT: Superintendent Robinson, Phil Place, Michelle Munyon, Karin Falkenstein, Elizabeth Johnson, Eric Munyon, Faith Bartley, Carrie Brunsting, Rachel Carlson

ADOPTION OF AGENDA

MOTION by **C. Carlson**, SECONDED BY Member **R. Writer**, the agenda for the board meeting of March 13, 2023 be adopted as written.

ROLL CALL VOTE: C. Carlson, K. Berry, J. Brackett, K. Laesch, S. Carlin, R. Writer, and H. Burnett

NAYS: None **MOTION ADOPTED**

RECOGNITION OF VISITORS

Dr. Burnett & Mrs. Robinson welcomed all.

C. Bartley, M. Bartley

POINTS OF PRIDE

Buck Staff Recognition March Winner: Elizabeth Johnson, Ottawa Administrative Assistant. Mrs. Laesch recognized Mrs. Johnson as this month's winner.

Nominees included:

- April Lee, Moccasin Mental Health Liaison
- Brian Pruett, BHS Principal
- Britney Thomas, BMS Paraprofessional
- Cindy Bowerman, 3rd Grade Teacher
- Donna Trigg, Moccasin Interventionist
- Hayley Sater, Moccasin 3rd Grade Teacher
- Jane Maheiu, Ottawa Substitute
- Kasey McBeth, Ottawa & Moccasin Literacy Coach
- Kristin Baker, Ottawa Media Assistant
- Laura Henckel, Ottawa Guidance Counselor
- Lauren Hendrick, ECSE Teacher
- Lisa Sears, 1st Grade Teacher
- Mary Colglazier, Ottawa Food Service
- Michael Babcock, Moccasin Principal
- Mindy Cooper, Moccasin Substitute
- Mr. Percy Tobar, BCS Bus Driver
- Phillip Place, Director of Information Technology
- Randy Brooks, BMS Interventionist
- Tara Mabry, Kindergarten Teacher

2023 Women's Varsity Basketball District & Regional Champs.

Middle School Choir Students earned a Division II rating at MSVMA District Festival.

Middle School Band Students earned all Division I ratings at MSBOA District Festival.

High School Band Students earned all Division I ratings at MSBOA District Festival.

BHS Student, Faith Bartley, earned 3rd place at Michigan High School State Powerlifting Competition. Faith's total weight lifted was 715 pounds!

SUPERINTENDENT/ DEPARTMENT REPORTS

Updates for BHS & CTE, BMS, Moccasin, Ottawa, Athletics & BVA, Business Office, Food Service, Information Technology, Transportation, and Assistant Superintendent were provided respectively.

PRESENTATIONS

School Highlight – Mrs. Karin Falkenstein, BCS Special Education Supervisor presented to the board. Mrs. Falkenstein reviewed special education law concerning expulsions.

2024 Puerto Rico Trip – Mr. Eric Munyon, BHS Spanish Teacher, presented to the board. Mr. Munyon provided details of the upcoming Spanish Trip to Puerto Rico.

INFORMATION/REPORTS & NEW BUSINESS

Public Relations Committee, February 22nd Meeting – Mrs. Robinson updated the board they reviewed adding rewards and recognitions for staff at a state and national level, focus on academic spotlight, service project videos, use of the district logo and bond information.

Farm Advisory Committee, February 22nd Meeting – Mrs. Laesch updated the board that maple syrup has started flowing about two weeks early, so they have been getting 4th graders out to collect sap and make maple syrup. They have also been preparing for Plow Day. The flyer will be released soon.

Curriculum & Programming Committee, February 28th Meeting – Mrs. Writer spoke that the group heard from Mr. Munyon regarding the upcoming Puerto Rico trip in 2024, the addition of 2 new courses at BHS and that the guidance office is fully staffed, 20th anniversary of merging with the Galien School District and having an event in fall, curriculum purchases and math curriculum review in progress.

Human Resources Committee, March 1st Meeting – Mrs. Berry informed the board that they spoke of resignations, retirements, new hires, salary negotiations, job fairs, open positions, potential staffing considerations, PBIS and maintenance.

PUBLIC COMMENT

None

ADOPTION OF CONSENT AGENDA

MOTION by **K. Laesch**, SECONDED BY Member **R. Writer**, the Board of Education approves the consent agenda for the regular board meeting of March 13, 2023 be adopted as written:

1. Minutes:

-  2-21-2023 Work Session
-  2-21-2023 Regular Meeting
-  3-2-2023 Special Meeting

2. Warrants:

-  Treasury & Expenditure Reports – February 2023

3. Retirement:

 Lucinda Bowerman - 3rd Grade Teacher, 27 years of service

4. Recommendations to Hire as submitted by:
Moccasin Elementary Principal, Mr. Michael Babcock
Ottawa Elementary Principal, Mrs. Stacey Denison

Recommended Employee	Title
Kara Barrett	Special Education Teacher, Moccasin
Sierra Ellis	Paraprofessional, Ottawa

5. Employment Departures:

Name	Position	Date upon which wages will terminate
Jason Paturalski	Varsity Boys Tennis Coach	(stipend previously paid in the fall)
Chad VanBeek	Maintenance Technician	April 3, 2023

ROLL CALL VOTE: C. Carlson, K. Berry, J. Brackett, K. Laesch, S. Carlin, R. Writer, and H. Burnett

NAYS: None **MOTION ADOPTED**

BUCHANAN VIRTUAL ACADEMY GRADUATION CERTIFICATION

MOTION by **R. Writer**, SECONDED by **K. Berry**, upon satisfactory completion of district requirements for high school graduation, the Board of Education hereby approves:

Buchanan Step Up Student:

 Izayah Burns

ROLL CALL VOTE: C. Carlson, K. Berry, J. Brackett, K. Laesch, S. Carlin, R. Writer, and H. Burnett

NAYS: None **MOTION ADOPTED**

SUPPORT STAFF LEAVE REQUEST – SARAH BLAIR

MOTION by **K. Berry**, SECONDED by **K. Laesch**, the Buchanan Board of Education grants unpaid leave of absence to Sarah Blair, BMS Administrative Assistant, from April 17, 2023 through April 19, 2023.

ROLL CALL VOTE: C. Carlson, K. Berry, J. Brackett, K. Laesch, S. Carlin, R. Writer, and H. Burnett

NAYS: None **MOTION ADOPTED**

2024 PUERTO RICO PROPOSAL FOR OVERNIGHT STUDENT TRIP

MOTION by **K. Laesch**, SECONDED by **K. Berry**, the Buchanan Board of Education approves the Spanish Trip to Puerto Rico from June 24, 2024 returning June 28, 2024 in accordance with board policy #2340, under the supervision of Mr. Eric Munyon.

ROLL CALL VOTE: C. Carlson, K. Berry, J. Brackett, K. Laesch, S. Carlin, R. Writer, and H. Burnett

NAYS: None **MOTION ADOPTED**

**2023 FIRST ROBOTICS
COMPETITION OVERNIGHT
STUDENT TRIP**

MOTION by **R. Writer**, SECONDED by **J. Brackett**, the Buchanan Board of Education approves the Robotics Team trip to Kentwood, Michigan for the purposes of the 2023 FIRST Robotics Competition.

The Robotics Team is expected to depart March 30, 2023 and return April 1, 2023 in accordance with board policy #2340. This Robotics Team trip will be under the supervision of Mr. Phillip Place.

ROLL CALL VOTE: C. Carlson, K. Berry, J. Brackett, K. Laesch, S. Carlin, R. Writer, and H. Burnett

NAYS: None **MOTION ADOPTED**

**BEA 2023-24 SCHOOL
CALENDAR AMENDMENT**

MOTION by **J. Brackett**, SECONDED by **K. Laesch**, the Buchanan Board of Education approves the amended 2023-24 school calendar recommended by Buchanan Education Association President Tom Brinks and Superintendent Robinson.

ROLL CALL VOTE: C. Carlson, K. Berry, J. Brackett, K. Laesch, S. Carlin, R. Writer, and H. Burnett

NAYS: None **MOTION ADOPTED**

**2023-24 NON-RENEWAL
CONSIDERATION OF
ADMINISTRATOR
CONTRACT**

MOTION by **K. Berry**, SECONDED by **R. Writer**, the Buchanan Board of Education acts to consider the non-renewal of the Assistant Superintendent's contract for the 2023-24 school year due to the elimination of the Assistant Superintendent position and reassignment to the position of Director of Operations and Instructional Systems Coordinator.

ROLL CALL VOTE: C. Carlson, K. Berry, J. Brackett, K. Laesch, S. Carlin, R. Writer, and H. Burnett

NAYS: None **MOTION ADOPTED**

**CLOSED SESSION –
STUDENT DISCIPLINE
HEARING**

MOTION by **H. Burnett**, SECONDED by **R. Writer**, the Buchanan Board of Education moves into closed session for a hearing on student discipline: Student #2397281507. Time 7:02pm

ROLL CALL VOTE: C. Carlson, K. Berry, J. Brackett, K. Laesch, S. Carlin, R. Writer, and H. Burnett

NAYS: None **MOTION ADOPTED**

RETURN TO OPEN SESSION

MOTION by **R. Writer**, SECONDED by **K. Laesch**, the Buchanan Board of Education resolves to return to open session. Time 7:32pm

ROLL CALL VOTE: C. Carlson, J. Brackett, K. Laesch, S. Carlin, R. Writer, and H. Burnett

NAYS: None **MOTION ADOPTED**

**STUDENT DISCIPLINE –
EXPULSION HEARING**

MOTION by **H. Burnett**, SECONDED by **R. Writer**, the Buchanan Board of Education adopts the following resolution:

WHEREAS, the administration has presented to the Board of Education, a recommendation concerning the expulsion of a student who was determined to be in violation of Buchanan School Board Policies #5517.01 and #5610 on Tuesday,

February 28, 2023 and

WHEREAS, the administration has notified the student and parents involved of the accusations against the student, the recommendation of expulsion, and their rights to a hearing on this date;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED:

The Buchanan Board of Education chooses to expel Student #2397281507 from attendance in Buchanan Community Schools with the following conditions to be met for possible reinstatement to Buchanan Middle School for the first semester of the 2023-2024 school year:

1. Through the remainder of the 2022-2023 school year, we request that student #2397281507 successfully complete the current grade level while attending BVA, the Step Up Program, or another alternative setting.
2. The student must have six sessions of counseling completed with an outside the school district professional (responsibility of parent/guardian) prior to re-admittance meeting with the Superintendent of the Buchanan Community Schools.
3. Upon the completion of the first two steps the student and parents/guardians must contact the Superintendent of Buchanan Community Schools to schedule a re-admittance hearing back into Buchanan Community Schools.
4. Any recommendation will be reviewed by the Buchanan School Board before a decision to reinstate student #2397281507 will be made. Student may be readmitted if all Board policies have been met.

ROLL CALL VOTE: C. Carlson, J. Brackett, K. Laesch, S. Carlin, R. Writer, and H. Burnett

NAYS: None **MOTION ADOPTED**

**PERFORMANCE SERVICES,
INC. HVAC DESIGN-BUILD
INSTALLATION CONTRACT**

MOTION by **C. Carlson**, SECONDED by **J. Brackett**, the Buchanan Board of Education approves the HVAC design-build installation contract with Performance Services Incorporated.

ROLL CALL VOTE: C. Carlson, J. Brackett, K. Laesch, S. Carlin, R. Writer, and H. Burnett

NAYS: None **MOTION ADOPTED**

BHS COURSE ADDITIONS

MOTION by **R. Writer**, SECONDED by **J. Brackett**, the Buchanan Board of Education approves the following courses to be added to the course guide for Buchanan High School:

-  Mass Media and Marketing
-  Introduction to Business

ROLL CALL VOTE: C. Carlson, J. Brackett, K. Laesch, S. Carlin, R. Writer, and H. Burnett

NAYS: None **MOTION ADOPTED**

**QUESTIONS & COMMENTS
FROM BOARD MEMBERS**

Mrs. Writer wished the 40th Close Up Trip to D.C. well. She also spoke of the First Amendment Boot Camp packet.

Mrs. Laesch spoke of the Bucky Fund and donating local.

Mrs. Brackett is proud of the band programs.

Dr. Burnett stated the Police Department would be hosting a couple seminars in April.

NEXT BOARD MEETING

Monday, April 17, 2023 at 6pm

ADJOURNMENT

7:43 pm

Mrs. Kelly Laesch, Secretary, Board of Education
(Minutes adopted at the 4/17/2023 meeting)