

Beecher Community School District

A regular meeting of the Beecher Board of Education was held on December 7, 2016 in the Coates Administration Building Board Room, 1020 W. Coldwater Road, Flint, MI 48505 and was called to order at 6:00 PM by Board President, Michele Loper.

Member in attendance were: Joyce Jackson, LaSonya Larry, Michele Loper, Reginald Mays, Mary Rankins, Marvin Smoot, and Ocelar Denson Watson.

Mrs. Loper asked board members and audience for a moment of silence in memory of Mrs. Mary Forte, mother of Donald Forte, Dailey Elementary Teacher, who passed away on Thursday, November 24, 2016.

Dr. Talison recognized the three board members (Ms. Larry, Ms. Watson, and Mrs. Loper) who are leaving and presented them with their photos.

Old Business

- A. Motioned by Mr. Smoot supported by Mr. Mays to approve the Minutes of November 2, 2016 (Regular Meeting) and Minutes of November 16, 2016 (Special Meeting).

All present voted yes on roll call vote (Mr. Mays, Ms. Larry, Ms. Jackson, Mr. Smoot, Mrs. Rankins, Ms. Watson, and Mrs. Loper).

Motion carried.

B. Old Business – Board Members

Ms. Watson – None

Mrs. Rankins discussed the following: Thank you to the residents who voted for me and had enough faith in me that I can still carry on the duties of Beecher Community School District and make a difference. Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.

Mr. Smoot – None

Ms. Jackson – None

Ms. Larry discussed the following: Merry Christmas and Happy New Year. I'm not mad that I didn't get back on the board. It is what it is. Now I don't have anyone telling me what I can't say and what I can't do because you're going to wish I stayed up here once I get out there in the audience. I will be in Lansing along with some other parents in Beecher Community School District. It's a lot of mess going on out here, a lot of favoritism, a lot of inappropriate things going on. I appreciate the votes I did get; I only lost by 21 votes. I had a chance to challenge that. I had an election officer, it ain't what you know it's who you know and I'm glad I know a lot of people. Over the years, I have met a lot of people and I have a lot of people in my corner besides Beecher who believed in me and supported me when I had all those problems with my daughter being called a "B" by the Athletic Director/Football Coach and the superintendent and board members knew about it. I appreciate everybody and the parents know who I'm out here for and I will support them no matter what. I supported some board members when they were doing wrong and their family members were doing wrong. I even supported the superintendent when he was doing wrong. No matter what, I'm going to always be in Beecher, I'm a Buctown no matter what for those who live out here and those that don't

Beecher Community School District

live out here, I'm going to be here regardless. Now I can do what I need to do as a community rep and a parent. I don't have to worry about no one telling me what I can't say and what I can't do.

Mr. Mays – None

Mrs. Loper discussed the following: I want to express my gratitude. It has been a great opportunity and a great privilege. I did not want to run again because I wanted to pursue my educational goals for obtaining my doctorate degree. I'm happy and excited. Thank you for this opportunity. Merry Christmas and happy holidays and I want to wish our new board members the very best of luck moving the district forward.

New Business

A. Public comments on agenda items only

None

B. Authorization for Payment of Bills – Board Treasurer Mays

Motioned by Mr. Mays supported by Mr. Smoot to approve the Authorization for Payment of Bills totaling \$922,647.87 for the period ending December 7, 2016.

All present voted yes on roll call vote (Mr. Mays, Ms. Larry, Ms. Jackson, Mr. Smoot, Mrs. Rankins, Ms. Watson, and Mrs. Loper).

Motion carried.

C. Business from Central Office/Informational Items – Dr. Talison, Superintendent

- Motioned by Ms. Jackson supported by Mr. Mays to accept the letter of resignation from Emily Chapman, Music Teacher (Part-Time) at Tucker Middle School, effective Friday, November 11, 2016.

All present voted yes on roll call vote (Mr. Mays, Ms. Larry, Ms. Jackson, Mr. Smoot, Mrs. Rankins, Ms. Watson, and Mrs. Loper).

Motion carried.

- Motioned by Mr. Mays supported by Mr. Smoot to approve Tryphena Cunningham as an additional Class of 2019 Sponsor. Ms. Cunningham has requested to not be paid.

(Discussion ensued between Ms. Jackson and Dr. Talison regarding: additional doing what; there has always been two class sponsors, Ms. Aurino is the Class of 2019 Sponsor and she will partner with her as the additional person; what class is Ms. Ray and Ms. Williams with; the additional is where I have question; traditionally there have been two sponsors)

All present voted yes on roll call vote (Mr. Mays, Mr. Smoot, Mrs. Rankins, Ms. Watson and Mrs. Loper; Ms. Jackson and Ms. Larry voted no).

Motion carried.

D. Donation Acceptance

Beecher Community School District

- Motioned by Ms. Jackson supported by Mr. Mays to accept the donation of 25 turkeys from 6th Annual JaVale McGee Great Turkey Giveaway that were donated to Beecher High School.

All present voted yes on roll call vote (Mr. Mays, Ms. Larry, Ms. Jackson, Mr. Smoot, Mrs. Rankins, Ms. Watson and Mrs. Loper).

Motion carried.

E. Field Trip Approval

1) BHS-GEAR-UP

Motioned by Ms. Jackson supported by Mr. Smoot to approve the 12th grade GEAR-UP field trip to Michigan State University in East Lansing, MI departing at 8:30 AM Friday, December 9, 2016 and returning at approximately 3:45 PM. A tentative roster is attached with the final roster to be on file prior to departure.

All present voted yes on roll call vote (Mr. Mays, Ms. Larry, Ms. Jackson, Mr. Smoot, Mrs. Rankins, Ms. Watson and Mrs. Loper).

Motion carried.

Dr. Talison stated please note that the Beecher Early Head Start monthly reporting information for July, August, September and October 2016 are in your packet, which includes the Enrollment Counts, Home Visit Completions, Socialization Meal Counts, Financial Report (Including Credit Card Usage), and Early Head Start Parent Policy Committee Meeting Minutes.

F. Committee Reports

1) Committee #7/Student Hearing Results 11/7/16 – 5:30 PM (Mr. Smoot, Chairperson)

Case #16-01 was re-admitted to Beecher High School effective Tuesday, November 8, 2016.

2) Special Board Meeting 11/16/16 – 5:30 PM

The board hired Robert Johnson for the position of Special Education Instructor at Beecher High School and accepted several donations.

3) Working Committee Meeting of the Whole 11/16/16 – 5:45 PM (Mrs. Loper, Chairperson)

The committee discussed the Superintendent's 2016-2017 Goals; Superintendent's Evaluation Tool; Student Forum; NEOLA Policy Update Volume 30, Number 2, February 2016; Board/Superintendent Concerns; and a personnel matter, which was discussed in closed session.

- Motioned by Mr. Mays supported by Mr. Smoot to approve the Beecher Community School District Coverage Roster.

(Discussion ensued between Ms. Jackson and Mrs. Loper regarding: exactly what does this consist of; it consists of who is going to cover the buildings when Dr. Talison and the principals are not in)

Beecher Community School District

All present voted yes on roll call vote (Mr. Mays, Ms. Larry, Ms. Jackson, Mr. Smoot, Mrs. Rankins, Ms. Watson and Mrs. Loper).

Motion carried.

- Motioned by Mrs. Rankins supported by Ms. Jackson to have Mrs. Castle be the High School Principal/Assistant Superintendent only in the absence of the Superintendent.

(Discussion ensued between Mrs. Loper, Dr. Talison, Ms. Watson, Mrs. Rankins, Mr. Mays regarding, and Ms. Jackson: when people cover for you, is there money involved and if so, how does that affect our General Fund? There is no additional compensation; they are just cover; yes; if she is covering here, who's covering the high school and is that a cost? We just finished voting for Matt Adams to cover when she is not there; there's not a cost but I thought when we discussed it, I thought the purpose was talking about coverage. Traditionally a cabinet member has always covered for the superintendent if they're absent. Mrs. McWilliams is the only cabinet member left due to outsourcing. We never would bring a person from a building if we have a person who doesn't have a building to cover to cover this office because Mrs. McWilliams and I are never gone at the same time. That was a part of me explaining that in the coverage plan, but I must have misunderstood; yes, because we had talked about this before, with people wearing two hats; does the title have to be added to do the same thing because when you give someone an addition title elevating them from one position to the next, there's normally compensation association with it and you're making an additional budgetary item that we've never discussed if that's going to take place. If you're saying there's going to be no compensation, than it is what it is; it will be compensation like when Mrs. Turner was here; Mrs. Turner had an additional person we had as the principal and we eliminated that; Mrs. Hughes came in to relieve her when she was gone and we had to pay her; we eliminated that when did the budget reduction process; we eliminated it at Dailey? Yes; I'm putting in a motion now that she will serve whenever you are not here; when we're talking about titles, as far as coverage I understand. When you tag in titles, you get involved with grants and funding because when you give titles, it confused or dips into another pot; there is no grant funding for the building principals; I know that but what we discussed in the last meeting was about titles. I have no problem with the coverage, it is the title part; the person that I brought up has a grant funded job and we could use that person. You brought in another name tonight and y'all voted for it and when she's gone as building principal he's going to take over, and we have to pay him, right? No, he's never been a load-bearing person since the beginning of the school year; there will be no additional pay; maybe if you turn it around and say when he's out of the district, Mrs. Castle will sit in the spot and that want consist of anything; I would like for it to stay as assistant superintendent, you can check it out and if there's some money involved for her to serve on the day he's not here, then we can bring it back to the board)

Beecher Community School District

All present voted yes on roll call vote (Mr. Mays, Ms. Larry, Ms. Jackson, and Mrs. Rankins; Mr. Smoot, Ms. Watson and Mrs. Loper voted no).

Motion carried.

- This is considered the first reading of NEOLA Volume 30, Number 2, February 2016. Board members, if you have any corrections, please let me know prior to the next board meeting as at that time, they will be considered for the second reading.
- 4) **Superintendent's Evaluation Committee Meeting of the Whole 11/28/16 – 5:30 PM (Mrs. Loper, Chairperson)**
The committee received superintendent's evaluation training from Deb Macon, Michigan Association of School Boards.
 - 5) **Finance Committee Meeting 11/30/16 – 5:30 PM (Mr. Mays, Chairperson)**
The committee received finance training from Dr. Jackie Johnston, Michigan Association of School Boards.
 - 6) **Committee #8/Student Hearing Results 12/5/16 – 6:30 PM (Mrs. Loper, Chairperson)**
Case #16-12 was expelled for the remainder of the second marking period through the third marking period (March 24, 2017) and can attend New Directions effective Tuesday, December 6, 2016.
 - 7) **Special Board Meeting-Closed Session 12/6/16 – 6:00 PM MCL 15.268(a)**
The committee evaluated the superintendent. The superintendent received an overall rating of 3.25 or 81%, which equals effective.

G. Other Business – Board Members

Mr. Mays – None

Ms. Larry discussed the following: Since we are talking about reductions and we only have 900 kids in the district, the new board members along with the old board members might want to consider making the superintendent part-time since he comes in 3,4, or 5 days out of the week. He's gone the majority of the time anyway, so might not. We need to make budget cuts. He comes in 3 days out of the week and the majority of time he's gone from the district. Another thing y'all might want to think about in the future too, since we're doing budget cuts and we don't that many kids out here, you might want to shorten your board members to 5, instead of doing 7 members push it down to 5. We don't need 7 board members now; we don't have that many kids in the district. That could be a big cut in the budget. That would cut back on the traveling, cut back on some of that \$30 y'all so pressed about every meeting to go to. That's something to think about and that's something I'm going to be working on as a parent, right along with some other parents. Cut the board members down to 5 instead of 7.

Ms. Jackson, Dr. Talison, and Mrs. Loper discussed the following: Right before Thanksgiving, why did we not have crossing guards in front of Dailey; I wasn't aware of

Beecher Community School District

this; Mr. Hawkins is here I'm sure he'll know; will you ask him after the meeting and make sure you get the answer; was it that Wednesday before Thanksgiving? Yes, and then on December 1st. Questions have been answered at the board table before during a meeting and I'm sure he ought to know the reason why there was no one there and I don't understand why he can't answer the question; it was brought up by a board member that we don't talk out in the audience, but I will make sure you get the answer tonight. I can ask him afterwards; I can ask him myself afterwards, but the point is questions have come from the table that were answered by someone sitting in the audience and I don't see what the reason is that it can't be asked; again, it was brought to my attention that we shouldn't be conversing back and forth with people in the audience; it wasn't brought to mine so I don't know the new rule. I would also like to know why is it being changed from when the buses, where did this order come from that the buses when they take the children to the games why are they ordered to come back to the bus yard and then go back to pick them up? That is a decision that Auxilio made; they made the decision that the bus driver would take the children to whatever school district, they would come back, and they would go back to pick up the students? Yes; did they give you a reason why? We met last week and they were talking about coverage and that is the process they want to operate on; coverage as far as what? That's how they're operating on the drop off of the athletic events; this has already started? It started with the winter sports; that would have been our first game where we played at Southwestern. Did they give you a reason why? Yes, it was to reduce cost because in the past you paid the bus driver the entire time they went to the game, they stayed those 2-3 hours and they were paid that time. Now they're only getting paid for the pick-up and drop-off and then they go back for the pick-up and drop-off; they didn't know this before the contract was made that it would make a difference with the employees pay and the gas amount? That's their employee and we don't have any impact on that. That's their employee and how they want to handle the situation to save money; so what you're saying is that Mr. Dillon is the one who came up with this? We met as a group and that's how they said they wanted to handle the situation so they won't have to accelerate their cost in regards to the transportation contract; that is the reason why because of the cost? Yes, because if you remember in the past, the bus drivers stayed and they were paid those hours they were at the game and everything back. This is a way they get paid for the time they go and come back and the time they go and come back no staying somewhere within the countywide radius. From the conversation I recall, if they were going somewhere like Goodrich or somewhere that is far that is a longer distance, they would stay at those events. It is a cost-saving measure so that we don't have to pay that hourly rate for someone that is staying during that time; the main thing that I'm asking, the question I'm asking this is Mr. Dillon's call? Yes, from the conversation we had last week.

Mr. Smoot and Dr. Talison discussed the following: I would like to see a report from each department head of where are students are with the growth at this point of the year. I would like it before the break, if possible; you'll have a Friday packet and it will have the first session of NWEA scores that were completed in October for all math, science, and social studies; is it for 9th-12th? No, it is K-12.

Mrs. Rankins discussed the following: Dr. Talison you may want to check with GISD because when I worked for GISD, a law came in that when you take kids to an area, you cannot leave. We had a student who got sick and the bus was not there and a law came

Beecher Community School District

through that we have to stay there. When we have training for finance, every board member should be in on that. When it's training, we rotate each year and every person on the board is supposed to have the same training so we can know what's going on. I don't know who put that in, I was told it came from the State that only three people was supposed to meet for that training, but all board members should get the same training at the same time in case a someone disappears, leave, quit, etc. somebody else can step in whose had that training. I was disappointed. I thought it was about the budget, I didn't know it was a training for three people and that's not right. I don't care who set it up, so in the future that from here on out when you mention the word training, all board members will get the same training so that we can all have the knowledge of what's going on.

Ms. Watson – None

Mrs. Loper – None

Ms. Jackson, Mrs. Seltzer, Dr. Talison, Ms. Larry, Mr. Mays, Mrs. Rankins, and Mrs. Loper discussed the following: Mrs. Seltzer, the call that you gave me today talking about the alumni, I would like to see that letter because I'm still confused on that; it will be in your packet on Friday; I don't want to wait until Friday; I can give it to you tonight; it consisted of what? I don't remember off the top of my head exactly what it said but I can give it to you tonight; for the lighting in the field house; no, it was for a donation for the new sound system in the field house; I would like to see that letter because that's why I had asked you for the names. Can you remember who the alumni is? It's not listed in there. All I did was read an email that was sent to all board members. I call you and Mrs. Rankins with the same email that was sent to all board members; is it a group or what is it, who are the people is what I'm talking about. Is there a name of the group? No, the only thing that was mentioned in the email is what I read to you. It didn't list anyone's name specifically, it just said Beecher alumni; I guess that's what I'm wondering. What alumni from what organization or anything like that, you don't remember that either? No; that was not on the letter? No, I will provide you with that email tonight and then I will put it in the packet for everybody to get it on Friday; I can clarify what you're asking. If you remember last year when Ms. Read came back I share with the board the internal accounts that each person outside the General Fund have. We have an Alumni Athletics in the internal accounts with \$16,000 the Athletic Director has access to and that is where the money is coming from; I still want to see the information; okay, I'll give it to you; Terrie I can look at that. Is that what you're talking about? That's not what I read; I know what you read, that's what I'm asking for; that's fine; you read a letter so when I get the letter that you're speaking of, what other information is going to there? I only read an email, there was no letter. It was just an email; what I want is what you got and I also want to know what it is that they are giving. That's what I'm asking for; okay; that's just a copy of the internal account. If you remember last year we had a board meeting and talked about internal accounts that different clubs and different organizations have, I was showing that. There wasn't an individual who donated anything. When Mrs. Malaski was here, there was an athletic alumni group that donated for the track and that is the money that is showing. That is the money Coach Hawkins is using to put the speakers in the gymnasium. The email that I gave you was letting you know that Coach Hawkins was accessing those dollars for the speakers. It was not a donation individually, those are people over time who have donated money for

Beecher Community School District

the athletic department. That's what the conversation was; if that's the case and that's money left for the athletic department, why can't other coaches get the money, why does he have to get the money? It's anything that is athletically inclined; did they know the money was sitting there? He knows about it and communicated that with the department; that would stop a lot of them from having to do fundraisers. They could have used that extra money to help the kids out to get their equipment; are you talking about what I'm talking about? Yes; I'm thinking that this is new coming in. What I'm talking about is new money right? All I did, Ms. Jackson, was read the email to you. I didn't type the email; who else saw the email, Talison did you see the email? I sent it out; my email said alumni and nothing about Athletic Alumni. I'm thinking this it's people who already been giving donations to the Vera B. Rison Library, etc. I didn't know it was just money people been giving to the athletic department. That money has been sitting there all of this time and I have a problem with the kids who've been out here busting their butts raising money trying to buy equipment and we could've been using that extra money doing such and such with these kids. You're the superintendent of this district and I can't understand why you don't never know nothing; I did know about it about, that's what I'm telling him about it. He accessed that money and meets with his coaches to discuss that so they can have that information. He knows about this information and shares the information with his coaches. It is their responsibility to then communicate to the athletic director specifically and they handle all of that; this is what's confusing me. Is it new money or new donations that are coming in? No; well that's not what I got from your conversation. That's not what I got from it; my email don't say that; I just read the email. I didn't type it I just read it; where did you say the email came from? It came from Dr. Talison; the email is not going together with what you're saying now because what I got from the email was that some young men and ladies, and whoever have come together just recently; no ma'am; that is not what I got at all. I'm thinking it was a brand new something; money has always been in the athletic department for the alumni fund. Even when I was playing, we had money in the alumni fund and that was in 1981. There has always been an alumni athletic fund, especially after Carl left. There has always been an athletic alumni fund; when a child is struggling and can't pay for their equipment, we could've been using that extra money to help that child out to pay for the equipment; we have used some of that money for equipment; I have been buying tickets for these kids; what are we going to do with the Magic Johnson basketballs, we were supposed to discuss that, when are we going to take care of it? At the next working committee of the whole next year because when you start looking at your goals and figuring out what kinds of things you want to do, that's when that discussion should take place; we said give it to the class sponsors for that year; I have no problem with that; it was two of them and Michele asked each board member what we should do with them and I want to make sure it gets done right; we haven't done anything with them; I'm still not understanding with the fact that it just came on, my understanding from what I heard is that it was brand new. What you're saying is it has always been there. Who decided to bring it up now? The athletic director; I don't have a problem with that whatsoever, it's just the way that when I got the call how it came across to me as if it was something brand new; I will re-read the email that was sent to make sure; as far as what the email said, it has nothing to do what's being discussed now. I'm thinking that it was someone brand new that's giving the district something. I don't have a problem with it going to the sports; *(Ms. Larry read the email in its entirety: Field House Sound System FYI that the athletic department is installing a new sound system in the Field House. The internal athletic alumni donations*

Beecher Community School District

are paying for the purchase. If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to contact me.); I do not have a problem with it going towards athletics, but my thing is the that it was read, the way that I understood it was that it was something brand new. So what needs to happen is clarification needs to be in things that are sent out. You might have understood it, but I didn't so something needs to be done with it as far as where the money is coming from and that's why I have a question about it because I'm trying to think is the list of names of the people that is alumni that is going to do that is that going to be on the list. So what you're telling me now is no, it's just from the alumni. That is not what I understood from the phone call. From now on, let me know this is from the alumni people that have been doing this all along; I read exactly what was just read; this is what I'm saying, but I'm still thinking it's brand new; he needs to send clarification. I'm just reading what he sent; I understand and that's what I'm saying and he's not sending clarification. You need to make it better because from what she read to me, it sounds like it was something brand new because we have not had it in a while so of course I'm not going to think about a couple of years ago.

H. Public Comments

Public Comments were received from:

Roshawnda Williams, Parent – A few of the parents have formed a team for parent participation. We're starting at the high school but we're going to branch out to make sure we get Dailey and Tucker parents involved. We're starting off with a walk and fit, getting our exercise on and we're including the parents, staff, and students after school. We're doing this because parents trust parents that involved in their district. We're getting the parents to get to know their teachers, staff, and each other because parents will trust a parent before they trust someone who doesn't have a child in the district or a parent who's not fully involved. I'm fully involved. I can tell a parent if they ask me does so-and-so teach well or how is that class ran. I can honestly give an opinion because my head is in the classroom and I'm strolling through the halls. We're starting small but it's going to grow and it's spreading through. We also have St. Paul Church helping us out with after school lunches. They also do tutoring between 4-7 everyday Monday-Friday. They also help with feeding students. This is going to be a positive thing and we invite and would love for anyone and everyone to come because the kids would love to see their parents involved and seeing them there helps out the students and staff and our principal loves it. We would love for y'all to come out and join us and be a part as much as possible.

Deatrius Burks, Parent – My son Quay (*Aquavius*) was invited to go play in France this summer coming up. He's going to play ball in France and it comes back to Beecher. He does have a fundraiser going because they have to raise \$500 per player and the school is going to pay \$4,500 per player to go over there. I wanted everyone to know, and yes I am soliciting, that we do have a Buc that's going to France to play this summer coming.

Alshondra Smith, Parent – Last Wednesday when I picked up my daughter, kids were running across the street and a couple of kids could have got hit on both ends, no security guard and that's a concern to me. Also, be mindful, everybody in here, that when you speak it's always somebody listening and repeating what you say. I want everybody to think about that for a minute because different things came my way. Please consider it.

Beecher Community School District

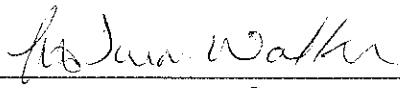
I. Adjournment

Motioned by Mrs. Rankins supported by Mr. Mays to adjourn the regular board meeting at 6:49 PM.


All present voted yes on roll call vote (Mr. Mays, Ms. Larry, Ms. Jackson, Mr. Smoot, Mrs. Rankins, Ms. Watson, and Mrs. Loper).

Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted by



Teajuana Walker, Secretary
Beecher Board of Education



Date Approved

Minutes transcribed by Terrie A. Seltzer