

**BUCHANAN COMMUNITY SCHOOLS, BERRIEN COUNTY, MICHIGAN**

**APRIL 17, 2023**

**REGULAR MEETING**

**BUCHANAN HIGH SCHOOL**

**CALL TO ORDER**

**PRESIDENT:** Dr. Burnett opened the meeting at 6:03pm

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

Dr. Burnett led the Pledge of Allegiance.

**ROLL CALL**

**PRESENT:** C. Carlson, K. Berry, J. Brackett, K. Laesch, S. Carlin, R. Writer, and H. Burnett

**ABSENT:** None

**OTHERS PRESENT:** Superintendent Robinson, Mark Kurland, Phil Place, Michelle Munyon, Reid McBeth, Carrie Brunsting, Shelby Beasley, MegaHurtz Robotics Team 5056, Melissa Frost, Jane Mitchell

**ADOPTION OF AGENDA**

MOTION by **C. Carlson**, SECONDED BY Member **R. Writer**, the agenda for the board meeting of April 17, 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.

T. Blumka, P. Sten, C. Franklin, L. Franklin, M. Franklin, B. Muprhy, K. Quasny, D. Wentworth, P. Wentworth, J. Krueger, B. Krueger, J. Krueger, L. McGinnis, J. Layne, C. Layne, J. Layne, C. Layne, J. Layne, T. Frantz

**POINTS OF PRIDE**

Buck Staff Recognition April Winner: Reid McBeth, Atheltic & BVA Coordinator. Mrs. Laesch recognized Mr. McBeth as this month's winner.

Nominees included:

- Blake Ryan, BHS Guidance Counselor
- Brandon Flowers, BHS Guidance Counselor
- Brian Pruett, BHS Principal
- Carrie Thompson, Moccasin Administrative Assistant
- David Sokolowski, 2nd Grade Teacher Permanent Substitute
- Jennifer Fiero, BHS Guidance Office Administrative Assistant
- Jill Petcu, 4th Grade Teacher
- Laura Henckel, Ottawa Guidance Counselor
- Mark Frey, BHS Assistant Principal & CTE Director
- Michelle Horvath, 3rd Grade Teacher
- Ryan Frontczak, BMS Dean of Students & Assistant Athletic Coordinator

Robotics MegaHurtz Team 5056 won the Industrial Design award at the East Kentwood Robotics Competition. The team presented to the board.

2023 Hall of Fame Inductees, April 28, 2023

- Contributions to Society, Dr. Erin McKean
- Contributions to Buchanan Community Schools, Mr. Bill Weaver
- Performance in School-Related Activities, Mr. John Karpinski

**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 – Mr. Reid McBeth, BCS Athletic & BVA Coordinator, presented to the board.

**INFORMATION/REPORTS &  
NEW BUSINESS**

Farm Advisory Committee, March 22<sup>nd</sup> Meeting – Mrs. Frost invited all to Plow Day. Mrs. Mitchell reviewed maple syrup production with the 4<sup>th</sup> graders as well as recycling activities participated by Ottawa 1<sup>st</sup> graders.

Superintendent & Buck Parent Conversations, March 29<sup>th</sup> Meeting – Mrs. Robinson informed the board they spoke of bond projects and increasing recess at Moccasin.

Parent Advisory Committee, March 30<sup>th</sup> Meeting – Mrs. Robinson updated the board that they spoke of job openings, the Boys & Girls Club, upcoming Schools of Choice window, choir, and SAT shifts to next year to online testing.

2023 Bond Informational, April 6<sup>th</sup> & 15<sup>th</sup> Meetings – Mrs. Robinson said there was a great turn out to provide factual information and tours of Moccasin and the high school.

Human Resources Committee, April 12<sup>th</sup> Meeting – Mrs. Berry informed the board that they spoke of new hires, the passing of beloved employee Larry Kline, resignations, job fairs, and open positions.



**PUBLIC COMMENT**

Rev. Pamela Sten

Brian Murphy

**ADOPTION OF CONSENT  
AGENDA**

MOTION by **J. Brackett**, SECONDED BY Member **K. Laesch**, the Board of Education approves the consent agenda for the regular board meeting of April 17, 2023 be adopted as written:

1. Minutes:
  -  3-13-2023 Regular Meeting
2. Warrants:
  -  Treasury & Expenditure Reports – March 2023
3. Recommendations to Hire as submitted by:
  - Moccasin Elementary Principal, Mr. Michael Babcock
  - Assistant Superintendent, Mr. Mark Kurland

Recommended Employee	Title
Candyce Peppers	Special Education Teacher, Moccasin
Breanna Hullinger	Operations Utility Staff (contract attached)

4. Coaching Recommendations submitted by Athletic Coordinator, Mr. Reid McBeth and Assistant Athletic Coordinator, Mr. Ryan Frontczak:

Coach	Position	Class/Level	Step
Blake Ryan	Varsity Boys Tennis Coach	3	1
Stacey Martin	6 <sup>th</sup> /7 <sup>th</sup> /8 <sup>th</sup> Grade Girls Track Coach	7	1
Joshua Wegener	6 <sup>th</sup> /7 <sup>th</sup> /8 <sup>th</sup> Grade Boys Track Coach	7	1

5. Employment Departures:

Name	Position	Date upon which wages will terminate
Larry Kline	Operations Utility Staff	March 16, 2023
Deanna Russell	Band Director	August 25, 2023 (teaching contract ends June 8, 2023)
Lucie Behrle	Ottawa Paraprofessional	April 12, 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 Virtual Academy Students:

-  Elizabeth Michelakis
-  Nina Bromley
-  Jesse Bowers
-  Abigail Polly

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

NAYS: None **MOTION ADOPTED**

**SCHOOLS OF CHOICE**

MOTION by **K. Berry**, SECONDED by **K. Laesch**, the Buchanan Community Schools Board of Education will operate a Schools of Choice Program which will accept applications of nonresident students for the available grade level openings as listed below for enrollment into the Buchanan Community School District for the 2023-24 school year in compliance with the statutory requirements of Section 105 and Section 105C. The window for applications for these openings will be April 27, 2023 through May 26, 2023. Available openings for each grade level:

OTTAWA ELEMENTARY	MOCCASIN ELEMENTARY	BUCHANAN MIDDLE SCHOOL	BUCHANAN HIGH SCHOOL
Kindergarten: 20	2 <sup>nd</sup> Grade: 6	5 <sup>th</sup> Grade: 4	8 <sup>th</sup> Grade: 5
1 <sup>st</sup> Grade: 5	3 <sup>rd</sup> Grade: 3	6 <sup>th</sup> Grade: 4	9 <sup>th</sup> Grade: 8
	4 <sup>th</sup> Grade: 1	7 <sup>th</sup> Grade: 2	10 <sup>th</sup> Grade: 4
			11 <sup>th</sup> Grade: 6
			12 <sup>th</sup> Grade: 5

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 – BRITNEY  
THOMAS**

MOTION by **K. Berry**, SECONDED by **J. Brackett**, the Buchanan Board of Education grants unpaid leave of absence to Britney Thomas, BMS Paraprofessional, from May 11 through May 18, 2023.

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 – KRISTIN BAKER**

MOTION by **K. Berry**, SECONDED by **R. Writer**, the Buchanan Board of Education grants unpaid leave of absence to Kristin Baker, Ottawa Media Assistant, for a half day on April 13 and a full day on April 14, 2023.

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

NAYS: None **MOTION ADOPTED**

**MEMORANDUM OF  
UNDERSTANDING – BOYS  
AND GIRLS CLUB**

MOTION by **K. Laesch**, SECONDED by **R. Writer**, the Buchanan Community Schools Board of Education approves the attached Memorandum of Understanding between the Boys and Girls Club of Greater Southwest Michigan and Buchanan Community Schools.

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 OF  
ADMINISTRATOR  
CONTRACT**

MOTION by **R. Writer**, SECONDED by **C. Carlson**, the Buchanan Board of Education acts to not renew 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**

**GIRL SCOUTS PROPOSED  
TREE PLANTING AT BMS**

MOTION by **J. Brackett**, SECONDED by **K. Berry**, the Buchanan Board of Education grants permission to the Girl Scouts to plant a tree at Buchanan Middle School.

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

NAYS: None **MOTION ADOPTED**

**EMERGENCY HOT WATER  
BOILER PURCHASE  
APPROVAL FOR BHS**

MOTION by **C. Carlson**, SECONDED by **K. Berry**, the Buchanan Board of Education authorizes the emergency purchase and installment of 2 new hot water boilers and 1 expansion tank for Buchanan High School to keep the school operating.

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

NAYS: None **MOTION ADOPTED**

**QUESTIONS & COMMENTS  
FROM BOARD MEMBERS**

Dr. Carlin thanked Pamela Sten and Brian Murphy for joining this evening's meeting.

Mrs. Laesch thanked North American Sign Co. for fixing Moccasin's flagpole. She also invited all to Plow Day on April 22 and thanked the community for supporting the bond committee.

Mrs. Berry invited all to the final bond informational meeting on April 20<sup>th</sup>.

Mrs. Writer thanked the community for attending the meetings and bond committee who are working hard to get the bond passed to support our young people. She also mentioned the many scholarship opportunities for seniors to apply for.

Dr. Burnett encouraged the community to vote on May 2<sup>nd</sup>.

**NEXT BOARD MEETING**

Monday, May 15, 2023 at 6:30pm  
End of Year Celebration, Monday, May 15, 2023 at 6pm

**ADJOURNMENT**

7:11 pm

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Mrs. Kelly Laesch, Secretary, Board of Education  
*(Minutes adopted at the 5/15/2023 meeting)*