

BUCHANAN COMMUNITY SCHOOLS, BERRIEN COUNTY, MICHIGAN

NOVEMBER 20, 2023

REGULAR MEETING

BUCHANAN HIGH SCHOOL

CALL TO ORDER

PRESIDENT: Dr. Burnett opened the meeting at 6:00pm

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Dr. Burnett led the Pledge of Allegiance.

ROLL CALL

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

ABSENT: R. Writer

OTHERS PRESENT: Superintendent Robinson, Mark Kurland, Carrie Brunsting, Michelle Munyon, Phil Place, Ali Kyles, Brian Brown, Courtney Schubach

ADOPTION OF AGENDA

MOTION by **C. Carlson**, SECONDED BY Member **K. Berry**, the agenda for the board meeting of November 20, 2023 be adopted as written.

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

NAYS: None **MOTION ADOPTED**

RECOGNITION OF VISITORS

Dr. Burnett & Mrs. Robinson welcomed all and auditor, Alex Shaeffer

M. Kyles

POINTS OF PRIDE

Buck Staff Recognition November Winner: Ali Kyles, Elementary Behavior Specialist

Nominees included:

- Bryant House, BMS Custodian
- Carrie Thompson, Moccasin Administrative Assistant
- David Short, BCS Maintenance
- Donna Southwell, BHS Interventionist
- Elizabeth Johnson, Ottawa Administrative Assistant
- Hailey Kline, Moccasin Media Assistant
- Holly Martin, BHS Special Education Teacher
- Judy Heckathorn, Moccasin Kitchen Manager
- Kara Barrett, Moccasin Special Education Teacher
- Kathy Paturalski, Ottawa Interventionist
- Laura Morris, BCS Payroll Coordinator
- Melissa Frost, BHS Science Teacher
- Samantha Bentley, Moccasin Food Service
- Shane Farley, 3rd Grade Teacher
- Trinity Young, BMS Media Assistant
- Valerie Phillips, BCS Bus Driver
- Vicki Toms, Moccasin Paraprofessional

NRG Carvana Combine Esports Event – Kyler Withers

Fall Athletics Season

Iconic Michigan Teacher Fellowship Project, Mrs. Luke & Mrs. Kratky

**SUPERINTENDENT/
DEPARTMENT REPORTS**

Updates for BHS & CTE, BMS, Moccasin, Ottawa, Athletics & BVA, Business Office, Food Service, Information Technology, Transportation, and Director of Operations & Instructional Systems Coordinator were provided respectively.

PRESENTATIONS

Audit – Alex Shaeffer, Kruggel Lawton & Company, LLC

**INFORMATION/REPORTS &
NEW BUSINESS**

School Farm Advisory Committee, October 17th Meeting

Finance Committee, October 19th Meeting

Human Resources Committee, November 1st Meeting

Curriculum & Programming Committee, November 6th Meeting




Facilities Planning Committee, November 16th Meeting

PUBLIC COMMENT

None

**ADOPTION OF CONSENT
AGENDA**

MOTION by **J. Brackett**, SECONDED BY Member **K. Berry**, the Board of Education approves the consent agenda for the regular board meeting of November 20, 2023 be adopted as written:

1. Minutes:
 -  10-16-2023 Regular Meeting
 -  11-7-2023 Work Session
2. Warrants:
 -  Treasury & Expenditure Reports – October 2023
3. Recommendations to Hire as submitted for:

Recommended Employee	Title
Jessica Hasse	Intervention Facilitator (BMS)
Julia LaMar	Intervention Facilitator (Ottawa)
Chelsea Spenner	Paraprofessional (Moccasin)
Nicole Sing-Morris	Paraprofessional (Ottawa)
Symanthe Phillips	Paraprofessional (Ottawa)
Marcus Williams	Custodian

4. Coaching Recommendation for Winter 2023-24 submitted for:

Coach	Position	Class/Level	Step
Moses Kyles	Varsity Mens Basketball Assistant Coach	6	2


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

NAYS: None **MOTION ADOPTED**

**BUCHANAN HIGH SCHOOL
EARLY GRADUATION
CERTIFICATION**

MOTION by **C. Carlson**, SECONDED by **J. Brackett**, upon satisfactory completion of district requirements for high school graduation, the Board of Education hereby approves:

Buchanan High School Student:

 Olivia McDannell




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

NAYS: None **MOTION ADOPTED**

**BUCHANAN VIRTUAL
ACADEMY GRADUATION
CERTIFICATION**

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

Buchanan Virtual Academy Students:

 Larry Randle III
 Jakob Slater
 Breana Thomas

Buchanan Step Up Student:

 Hope Taylor

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

NAYS: None **MOTION ADOPTED**

**2023-2024 MHSAA
ATHLETIC STATE
QUALIFYING TEAMS –
OVERNIGHT STUDENT
TRIPS**

MOTION by **C. Carlson**, SECONDED by **K. Berry**, the Buchanan Board of Education approves the proposal for upcoming overnight student trips for MHSAA Tournament qualifying teams for the 2023-24 school year in accordance with board policy #2340.

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

NAYS: None **MOTION ADOPTED**

**2023-2024
EXTRACURRICULAR
ASSIGNMENTS**

MOTION by **J. Brackett**, SECONDED by **K. Berry**, the Buchanan Board of Education approves the Buchanan Community Schools extracurricular assignments for the 2023-2024 school year.

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

NAYS: None ABSTAINED: C. Carlson **MOTION ADOPTED**

**SUMMER TAX
RESOLUTION**

MOTION by **H. Burnett**, SECONDED by **K. Laesch**, the Buchanan Board of Education adopts for following resolution:

WHEREAS, this Board previously adopted a resolution to impose a summer tax levy to collect 100% of annual school property taxes, including debt service, upon property located within the District and continuing from year-to-year until specifically _____ revoked _____ by _____ the _____ Board.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT:

1. The Board, pursuant to 1976 PA 451, as amended (the Revised School Code), invokes for **2024** its previously adopted ongoing resolution imposing a summer tax levy of all of annual school property taxes, including debt service, upon

property located within the District and continuing from year-to-year until specifically revoked by the Board and requests that each city and/or township in which the District is located collect those summer taxes.

2. The Superintendent or designee is authorized and directed to forward to the governing body of each city and/or township in which the District is located a copy of this Board's resolution imposing a summer property tax levy on an ongoing basis and a copy of this resolution requesting that each such city and/or township agree to collect the summer tax levy for **2024** in the amount specified in this resolution. Such forwarding of the resolutions and the request to collect the summer tax levy shall be performed so that they are received by the appropriate governing bodies before **January 1, 2024**.

3. Pursuant to and in accordance with Section 1613(1) of the Revised School Code, the Superintendent or designee is authorized and directed to negotiate on behalf of the District with the governing body of each city and/or township in which the District is located for the reasonable expenses for collection of the District's summer tax levy that the city and/or township may bill under MCL 380.1611 or MCL 380.1612. Any such proposed agreement shall be brought before this Board for its approval or disapproval.

All resolutions and parts of resolutions insofar as they conflict with the provisions of this resolution be and the same are hereby rescinded.

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

NAYS: None **MOTION ADOPTED**

**RESOLUTION CALLING
ELECTION**

MOTION by **K. Laesch**, SECONDED by **C. Carlson**, the Buchanan Board of Education adopts for following resolution:

WHEREAS:

1. This Board intends to submit one or more propositions at a special election to be held on the 2024 Michigan presidential primary election date, which will be either Tuesday, February 27, 2024 (the "February Primary Date") or Tuesday, March 12, 2024 (the "March Primary Date"), as designated by law.
2. By 4:00 p.m. on Tuesday, December 5, 2023, the Board shall certify any ballot proposition to be submitted to the voters at such election to the election coordinator or coordinators designated to conduct elections within the District (the "Election Coordinator").

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT:

1. A special election of the school electors of the District be called and held on either Tuesday, February 27, 2024 or Tuesday, March 12, 2024, whichever date is designated by law as the election date for the 2024 Michigan presidential primary.
2. The propositions to be voted on at the special election shall be stated on the ballots in substantially the form as set forth in Exhibit A.
3. The Election Coordinator is requested to:

- a. Utilize Niles Daily Star (Leader Publications), a newspaper published or of general circulation within the District, for publication of notices in accordance with the election law requirements.
 - b. Utilize ballot proposition summary information, as prepared by legal counsel, in the forms of the notices of last day of registration and election in substantially the form as set forth in Exhibit B attached hereto.
 - c. Provide a proof copy of the ballots to the District and its legal counsel in sufficient time to allow the ballots to be proofread prior to printing.
4. The Secretary of this Board is hereby authorized and directed to file a copy of this resolution with the Election Coordinator and with any Election Clerk or clerks designated to conduct elections within the District by 4:00 p.m., on Tuesday, December 5, 2023, or by the filing deadline for the March Primary Date, if applicable.
 5. All resolutions and parts of resolutions insofar as they conflict with the provisions of this resolution be and the same are hereby rescinded.

EXHIBIT A

I.

BUCHANAN COMMUNITY SCHOOLS OPERATING MILLAGE RENEWAL PROPOSAL

This proposal will allow the school district to continue to levy the statutory rate of not to exceed 18 mills on all property, except principal residence and other property exempted by law, required for the school district to receive its full revenue per pupil foundation allowance and renews millage that will expire with the 2024 tax levy.

Shall the currently authorized millage rate limitation of 18.4001 mills (\$18.4001 on each \$1,000 of taxable valuation) on the amount of taxes which may be assessed against all property, except principal residence and other property exempted by law, in Buchanan Community Schools, Berrien County, Michigan, be renewed for a period of 10 years, 2025 to 2034, inclusive, to provide funds for operating purposes; the estimate of the revenue the school district will collect if the millage is approved and 18 mills are levied in 2025 is approximately \$2,967,755 (this is a renewal of millage that will expire with the 2024 tax levy)?

II.

BUCHANAN COMMUNITY SCHOOLS SINKING FUND MILLAGE RENEWAL PROPOSAL

This proposal will allow the school district to continue to levy the building and site sinking fund millage that expires with the 2024 tax levy.

Shall the currently authorized millage rate of 0.7919 mill (\$0.7919 on each \$1,000 of taxable valuation) which may be assessed against all property in Buchanan Community Schools, Berrien County, Michigan, be renewed for a period of 8 years, 2025 to 2032, inclusive, to continue to provide for a sinking fund for the construction or repair of school buildings and all other purposes authorized by law; the estimate of the revenue the school district will collect if the millage is approved and levied in 2025 is approximately \$393,833 (this is a renewal of millage that expires with the 2024 tax levy)?

EXHIBIT B

**SUMMARIES OF BALLOT PROPOSITIONS TO BE INSERTED IN THE
NOTICES OF LAST DAY OF REGISTRATION AND ELECTION:**

- I. BUCHANAN COMMUNITY SCHOOLS
OPERATING MILLAGE RENEWAL PROPOSAL
EXEMPTING PRINCIPAL RESIDENCE
AND OTHER PROPERTY EXEMPTED BY LAW
18.4001 MILLS FOR 10 YEARS

- II. BUCHANAN COMMUNITY SCHOOLS
SINKING FUND MILLAGE RENEWAL PROPOSAL
.7919 MILL FOR 8 YEARS

Full text of the ballot propositions may be obtained at the administrative offices of Buchanan Community Schools, 401 West Chicago Street, Buchanan, Michigan 49107-1099, telephone: (269) 695-8400.

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

NAYS: None **MOTION ADOPTED**

**PROPOSED TREE
PLANTINGS AT BHS**

MOTION by **J. Brackett**, SECONDED by **K. Berry**, the Buchanan Board of Education approves the Buchanan Tree Friends to plant up to 6 trees at Buchanan High School

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

NAYS: None **MOTION ADOPTED**

**QUESTIONS & COMMENTS
FROM BOARD MEMBERS**

Board Members spoke.

NEXT BOARD MEETING

Monday, December 11, 2023 at 6:00pm

ADJOURNMENT

6:50 pm

Mrs. Kelly Laesch, Secretary, Board of Education
(Minutes adopted at the 12/11/2023 meeting)