

BUCHANAN COMMUNITY SCHOOLS, BERRIEN COUNTY, MICHIGAN

OCTOBER 21, 2024

REGULAR MEETING

BUCHANAN HIGH SCHOOL

CALL TO ORDER

PRESIDENT: Dr. Burnett opened the meeting at 6:01pm

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Dr. Burnett led the Pledge of Allegiance.

ROLL CALL

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

ABSENT: None

OTHERS PRESENT: Superintendent Robinson, Mark Kurland, Carrie Brunsting, Phil Place, Brian Brown, Courtney Schubach, Shelby Beasley, Stacey Denison

ADOPTION OF AGENDA

MOTION by **C. Carlson**, **SECONDED** BY Member **K. Laesch**, the agenda for the board meeting October 21, 2024 be adopted as written, with the addition of motion viii. Capital Project Fund Resolution.

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

NAYS: None **MOTION ADOPTED**

RECOGNITION OF VISITORS

Dr. Burnett & Mrs. Robinson welcomed all.

POINTS OF PRIDE

Middle School 2024-25 Boys & Girls Cross Country Regional Champs!

Varsity Men's & Women's Cross Country Conference Champs!

Buck Staff Appreciation October Winner: Stacey Denison, Ottawa Elementary Principal

Nominees included:

Abby Dillon, 3rd Grade Teacher

Anna Smith, Administrative Assistant to Assistant Principal & Athletics
Bryant House, Custodian

Dawn VanDyke, Ottawa Special Education Teacher

Elizabeth Johnson, Ottawa Administrative Assistant

Hayley Sater, 3rd Grade Teacher

Jared Huttenstine, Outdoor Education Coordinator

Jessica Hasse, BMS Interventionist

Jessica Maurer, Elementary PE Teacher

Lauren Powers, 5th Grade Teacher

Melissa Frost, BHS Science Teacher

Michael Babcock, Moccasin Principal

Nate Will, Transportation Supervisor

Sandy Emerick, Ottawa Interventionist

Shannon Jeffries, 6th Grade Science Teacher

Tami Wreggelsworth, Payroll & Accounts Payable Clerk

**SUPERINTENDENT &
DEPARTMENT REPORTS**

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

PRESENTATIONS

Shelby Beasley – Buchanan Middle School Principal

Audit

INFORMATION/REPORTS & NEW BUSINESS

- Finance Committee – September 23rd Meeting
- Curriculum & Programming Committee – September 26th Meeting
- Board Policy Committee – October 1st Meeting
- Human Resources Committee – October 2nd Meeting
- Superintendent & Buck Parent Conversations – October 2nd Meeting
- Facilities Planning Committee – October 7th Meeting
- Finance Committee – October 14th Meeting
- Parent Advisory Committee – October 15th Meeting

PUBLIC COMMENT

None

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 October 21, 2024 be adopted as written:

1. Minutes:
 - 9-16-2024 Regular Meeting
2. Warrants:
 - Treasury & Expenditure Reports –September 2024
 - Dashboard – September 2024
3. 2024-25 Extracurricular Contracts
4. Teacher Tenure for 2024-25 School Year:
 - Brandon Flowers
 - Kelly Smith
5. Recommendations to Hire as submitted for:

Recommended Employee	Title
Gina Pellouchoud	3rd Grade Teacher
David Sokolowski	ELA Interventionist, BMS
Mindy Cooper	Paraprofessional, Moccasin
Andrea Wilgus	Behavior Interventionist, Moccasin

6. Employment Departures:

Name	Position	Date upon which wages will terminate
Ali Kyles	Behavior Interventionist, Moccasin	September 18, 2024

7. Coaching Recommendation for 2024-25 submitted for:

Coach	Position	Class/Level	Step
Ronald Hein	BMS Boys Track Coach	7	1
Raylin Hinds	JV Men’s Basketball Coach	4	1
Daniel Libertowski	Varsity Women’s Basketball Coach	1	3

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

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

**BEA LETTERS OF
AGREEMENT – TEACHER
EVALUATION & DAWN
VANDYKE**

MOTION by **J. Brackett**, SECONDED by **R. Writer**, the Buchanan Board of Education approves the following attached letters of agreement with the Buchanan Education Association:

- Teacher Evaluation
- Dawn VanDyke

**Letter of Agreement
Board of Education Buchanan Community Schools
and
Buchanan 5C Education Association, MEA/NEA**

Teacher Evaluation

This Agreement is between the Board of Education of the Buchanan Community Schools (Board) and the Buchanan 5C Education Association, MEA/NEA (Association) and collectively (the Parties).

Recitals

- A. Revised School Code Section 1249 addresses teacher evaluation and was amended, effective July 1, 2024. See MCL 380.1249 as amended by 2023 PA 224.
- B. Amended Section 1249, in part, states that:
 1. "Student growth, assessment data, and student learning objectives must be measured using metrics agreed upon through collective bargaining, if applicable." (Section (1)(c)).
 2. "The student growth and assessment data or student learning objectives metrics must be collectively bargained, if applicable, as determined under subsection (1)(c)." (Section (2)(a)(i)).
- C. Adopted June 10, 2024, Board Policy 4403-R (Performance Evaluation) reflects the legal standards stated in amended Section 1249. See attached Board Policy 4403-R, incorporated by reference.

Agreement

1. Board Policy 4403-R does not conflict with any applicable provisions of the Parties' current collective bargaining agreement, which was ratified by the Board on June 10, 2024, and is effective through June 30, 2027.
2. The Board will use "The Thoughtful Classroom" evaluation tool to conduct teacher evaluations and to measure teacher effectiveness based on established standards and in accordance with Board Policy 4403-R.
3. Twenty percent (20%) of the teacher's year-end evaluation will be based on student growth and assessment data or student learning objectives metrics. District leadership can determine whether to use these tools flexibly based on the

content taught, grade-level assessments, etc., For example, SAT only, SLO only, or a combination of assessments.

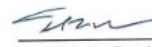
4. To measure student growth, the following assessments will be used at the specified grade levels:
 - A. **PreK:** TS (Teaching Strategies) Gold and SLOs (Student Learning Outcomes) will measure academic growth across various subjects.
 - B. **Kindergarten through Grade 1:** DIBELS (Dynamic Indicators of Basic Early Literacy Skills), NWEA (Northwest Evaluation Association) assessments and SLOs (Student Learning Outcomes) will measure academic growth across various subjects.
 - C. **Grades 2-7:** NWEA (Northwest Evaluation Association) assessments and SLOs (Student Learning Outcomes) will measure academic growth across various subjects.
 - D. **Grades 8-12:** The SAT (Scholastic Aptitude Test), SLOs (Student Learning Objectives), and NWEA (Northwest Evaluation Association), if applicable, will measure academic growth across various subjects.
5. For the duration of this Agreement, teacher evaluation will be conducted pursuant to Board Policy 4403-R and this Agreement.
6. The Parties will annually review the teacher evaluation process and make necessary adjustments to ensure that it meets the needs of both teachers and students.
7. This Agreement expires on June 30, 2027.
8. This Agreement is a non-precedent setting and contains the Parties' entire understanding and cannot be modified without further written agreement by the Parties.

For the Board of Education



Patricia Robinson, Superintendent

For the Buchanan Education Association



Tom Brinks, President

October 11, 2024

October 11, 2024



**Letter of Agreement Between the
Buchanan -5C Education Association, MEA/NEA, and the
Buchanan Community Schools Board of Education**

Stipend for Additional Hours – Early Childhood Special Education Teacher Dawn VanDyke

In consideration of their mutual covenants reflected in this Agreement, the Buchanan-5C Education Association, MEA/NEA (the Association), and the Buchanan Community Schools Board of Education (the Board), agree as follows:

1. Due to the challenges in filling certain special education positions, Buchanan Early Childhood Special Education Teacher Dawn VanDyke has accumulated additional work hours outside of the regular school day during the 2024-25 school year.
2. While the parties acknowledge that all professional staff have work responsibilities that may extend beyond the regular school work day, Ms. VanDyke's additional hours are significant.
3. Effective September 30, 2024, the District will pay Ms. VanDyke an additional stipend of \$10,000 for each semester for the 2024-2025 school year.
4. This stipend payment is made through payroll on a lump-sum basis, less applicable withholdings, at the end of each semester.
5. The need for additional hours is temporary and will end, whichever is first, after the official start date of the new Early Childhood Special Education Teacher or when additional time is no longer warranted as mutually agreed by Ms. VanDyke and the Superintendent. The stipend for that semester will then be pro-rated as needed based on the number of days worked.
6. This Agreement is not intended to set a precedent and in no way modifies any other provision of the parties' collective bargaining agreement.
7. This Agreement expires on June 30, 2025.

For the Board of Education



Patricia Robinson,
Superintendent

For the Buchanan Education Association



Tom Brinks
President

October 11, 2024

October 11, 2024

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

ABSTAINED: C. Carlson and K. Berry NAYS: None **MOTION ADOPTED**

**APPOINTMENT TO
BUCHANAN DISTRICT
LIBRARY BOARD**

MOTION by **C. Carlson**, SECONDED by **K. Berry**, the Buchanan Board of Education appoints Grantland Waggoner to the Buchanan District Library Board of Trustees as the student representative.

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

NAYS: None **MOTION ADOPTED**

CURRICULUM ADOPTION

MOTION by **R. Writer**, SECONDED by **J. Brackett**, the Buchanan Board of Education approves the following curriculum adoption:

- Reveal Math for grades 5-8, Algebra 1 & 2, and Geometry
- ELA Wonders for grades K-1 and 5th grade

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

NAYS: None **MOTION ADOPTED**

**THRUN BOARD POLICY
UPDATE**

MOTION by **K. Berry**, SECONDED by **K. Laesch**, the Buchanan Board of Education approves the following policies:

- July 2024 Thrun Policy Update
- 5802 Student Transportation Update

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

NAYS: None **MOTION ADOPTED**

**STUDENT HANDBOOK
UPDATES**

MOTION by **C. Carlson**, SECONDED by **K. Berry**, the Buchanan Board of Education approves the Buchanan Community Schools updated student handbooks for the 2024-2025 school year:

- Ottawa Elementary School Handbook
- Athletics Handbook

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

NAYS: None **MOTION ADOPTED**

**BUCHANAN VIRTUAL
ACADEMY GRADUATION
CERTIFICATION**

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

Buchanan Virtual Academy Students:

- Connor Aguilar
- Carol Krause
- Fatimatuzohra Zainab

Buchanan Step Up Students

- Arihn Ferguson
- Kylee Wheeler

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

NAYS: None **MOTION ADOPTED**

**CONTRACT APPROVAL –
SNOW PLOWING**

MOTION by **K. Laesch**, SECONDED **R. Writer**, the Board of Education approves the snow removal contract for the 2024-2025 school year with Affordable Asphalt Paving & Bulldozing.

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

NAYS: None **MOTION ADOPTED**

**CAPITAL PROJECT FUND
RESOLUTION**

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

Whereas: Buchanan Community Schools is committed to providing high-quality educational facilities and resources to its students, staff, and community, and

Whereas: There is a demonstrated need for improved infrastructure, renovation, and expansion of current educational facilities to meet the growing demands and standards; Capital projects are essential to ensure the safety, functionality, and modernization of school buildings and facilities; It is in the best interest of Buchanan Community Schools to establish a dedicated fund for the purpose of financing capital projects.

Now, Therefore, Be It Resolved That: A Capital Projects Fund shall be established and maintained for Buchanan Community Schools. The purpose of this fund shall be to accumulate financial resources to be used exclusively for capital projects, including but not limited to the construction, renovation, and improvement of school facilities.

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

NAYS: None **MOTION ADOPTED**

**QUESTIONS & COMMENTS
FROM BOARD MEMBERS**

Board members spoke.

NEXT BOARD MEETING

Monday, November 18, 2024 at 6:00pm.

ADJOURNMENT

7:05 pm