

## **Minutes of March 12, 2012, Regular School Board Meeting**

**General**- President Schwartzfisher called to order the regular meeting of the Beaver Island Community School Board at 7:30 pm on Monday, March 12, 2012.

**Present**- Barb Schwartzfisher, Dawn Marsh, Karen Johnson, Brian Cole, and Jessica Anderson.; *Nancy Tritsch via speakerphone.*

**Absent** - Dana Hodgson

**Others Present** - Kitty McNamara, Alice Belfy, Mike Myers, Deb Robert, Sarah McCafferty, Erin Boyle, Meg Works, Emily Boyle, Elaine West, Pete Plastrik, Dan Martell, Judy Boyle, Kevin Boyle, Carolyn Works, Julie Martin, Sarah Avery, John Works.

**Public Comment** - Sarah Avery handed a proposal to the board for consideration that would delay the start date in September to the Thursday or Monday following Labor Day by adding minutes to the calendar. The board agreed to look at this.

Judy Boyle urged the board to continue the Health Occupations Program in spite of Sarah McCafferty's move off the island due to the many career paths and exposure it provides the students.

John Works expressed concern about a speaker the students were exposed to.

**Approval of Minutes**- Moved by Cole, supported by Johnson, to approve the February 6, 2012, Regular School Board Meeting Minutes as presented. Motion carried.

**Lead Teacher Report** - Deb Robert reported on individual teacher visits to various northern Michigan schools; the implementation of the Math Common Core standards yet this year; the K-8 Delta Math Assessment (used to gauge readiness for next year); and Fall MEAP scores.

Students (Erin & Emily Boyle, and Meg Works) reported on their recent placements at HOSA (Health Occupation Students of America) Regionals and the upcoming HOSA State competition that Beaver Island will attend. Emily Boyle announced her candidacy of running for HOSA's "state president in training."

**Treasurer's Report** - The monthly budget report indicates revenue and expense areas are on target.

Budget planning continues to be a challenge due to declining property values. As expenditures continue to increase, ways to trim the budget absolutely need to be identified. McNamara expects to have a report of the 2012-2013 General Fund Budget available for the April Regular School Board Meeting.

Retirement discussions are taking place at the state level that would impact all Michigan public school employees and the budgets of all Michigan school districts.

**Special Election – May 8, 2012** –Board member Marsh will work with McNamara and Belfy on the Election Committee for this year’s Special School Election -- a 15.7908 operational millage renewal for two years for the district and a Char-Em ISD Special Ed renewal. Then, in November, two board members will be elected (terms expire this year for both Dawn Marsh and Nancy Tritch). Annual school elections that were normally held May are now being held at the November election due to changes in the election law. The board will need to choose between the current 4 year term of office, or a six year term of office. The board will need to make a decision on term length at the April board meeting.

**Policy** Due to concern about the appropriateness of a recent guest speaker, a policy will be drafted for board review regarding the selection and sponsorship of guest speakers. Teacher Deb Robert agreed to sit in on this discussion.

Jessica Anderson updated the board on the March 8, 2012, Policy Committee Meeting

Second readings were held on the following policies:

1. Electronic Communications – McNamara will make discussed changes in A & C in first section.
2. Drug Free Schools – Students
3. Drug Free Workplace – Employees

The second reading on Bullying was postponed.

**Administrative Update** – McNamara reported on a recent School Safety meeting held at the school and attended by members of the following organizations: BICS, Beaver Island EMS and Volunteer Fire Department, Charlevoix County Deputy’s Office, and Charlevoix Public and Charlevoix-Emmet ISD.

Moved by Anderson, supported to Johnson, to reschedule the March 19, 2012, Board Work Session to April 23, 2012, at 7:00 p.m. at Beaver Island Community School. Motion carried.

Frontier Computers has undergone changes and will no longer serve BICS. Tim Beethem and Scott Hewitt, of Char-Em, continue contractual technology work on a regular basis.

Jenna Wilk will be offered the job of long-term sub to fulfill Anna Martell’s absence due to maternity leave. Jenna spent a day in the classroom with Anna and the students, as did one other candidate, before she was offered the temporary position. Adam Richards was selected to participate in the “Big History Project” funded by the Gates Foundation, and travels to Seattle this month for training. Miranda Rooy has been selected as this year’s OPIE (Outstanding Person in Education) recipient.

MME testing took place last week. More information from fall MEAP results will be presented at the April board meeting.

Graduation – McNamara notified the board that a student who had been temporarily suspended from school will participate in the graduation ceremony, per school policy.

For the first time in many years, there is interest on behalf of students to start a track club. The NLL is sponsoring a meet May 19<sup>th</sup> in St. Ignace, and depending on the athletic budget, may include Beaver Island.

**Chain of Command and Effective Communication** - Moved by Cole, supported by Anderson, to set Thursday, March 14, 2012, at 8:30 a.m. as a Board Work Session to discuss concerns about resolving school-based problems.

Submitted by           *Alice Belfy*            
Alice Belfy, Recording Secretary