

Special Board Meeting BURLINGTON-EDISON SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 100 Feb. 28, 2012

The Board of Directors of Burlington-Edison School District No. 100 met on February 28, 2012 in the Board Room of the Administration Office at 7:45 a.m.

Board Members Present: President, Bill Wallace; Vice-President, Roger Howard; Members, Bradley Whaley, Rich Wesen, and David Lowell

Staff Members Present: Superintendent, Laurel Browning; Assistant Superintendent, Dr. Jeff Drayer; Executive Director of Teaching and Learning, K.C. Knudson; Finance Director, Joe Stewart; and Deputy Board Secretary, Vicki Kelley

The meeting was called to order by President Wallace at 7:45 a.m. All Board members were in attendance.

Mr. Wallace stated that the purpose of the meeting was to deal specifically with the Burlington-Edison High School graduation date issue.

Superintendent Browning presented graduation proposals the prior evening with recommendations to be considered. Mrs. Browning conveyed to the Board a conversation she had this morning with one of the members of the “Grad Night” parent group who spoke the prior evening. There are a couple of issues parents are concerned about as follows:

1. The parent group is advocating for keeping the date as June 8, 2012 so they can keep their reserved venues (deposits have been paid). If they have to change the date, they will have to pay a penalty of up to \$3,000, but will be able to reschedule their venues.
2. Some students who have signed up, have contacted the parent group that if the date is moved to June 15, they will not participate as their families have already made plans for after the June 8 date.

Following are comments from the Board and administration on the subject:

1. There is the dilemma of the education of kids versus families (parents) and their plans and additional expenses.
2. If we stay with the June 8 date, it sets a precedent for the future of “not changing the date.”
3. We have been focusing on school closure due to snow, but what if we have a flood or fire? There are other kinds of things that can disrupt you even though you plan for the normal.
4. If we move the water slides field trip to Monday, then we will need two three-hour days to make up. I think we will be criticized by some families that we are making a disruption and financial burden on families just to make up six hours.
5. We are talking about two three-hour days, That is what it comes down to.
6. We need to keep the common theme for education. That is our role.
7. There is the concern that there could be more than two three-hour days because of weather, etc.
8. Don’t think the police would like graduation on the same date as Berry Dairy Days. They would not like having another event (think about the traffic).
9. If we move graduation to the middle of the following week, would midweek grad night work?

10. Some classes are shared with juniors and seniors. When the seniors leave, it can disrupt the classroom dynamics for the remaining students and teachers.
11. How disruptive will it be? Will there really be that many kids returning?
12. Teachers start to let down; they would have to move testing schedules; and there would not be quality days.
13. Seniors would have to come back for two days after school is out, but not a Saturday. It is too expensive to run school for students on a Saturday. Don't put the students in the classroom.
14. Keep the date at June 8 with the caveat that the administration be directed to mitigate this issue in the future for all concerned.

Mr. Howard moved to approve Friday, June 8, 2012 as the date for B-EHS graduation for the Class of 2012 starting at 7:00 p.m. on Kirkby Field. Mr. Wesen seconded. Motion carried.

Mr. Howard moved to direct the administration to include in future school calendars additional days for school closures regardless of the cause and communicate to senior families of the plan in order to preserve a solid education environment. Mr. Wesen seconded. Motion carried.

At approximately 8:20 a.m., there being no further business before the Board, the meeting was adjourned.

Board President

Board Secretary