

Board Meeting. BURLINGTON-EDISON SCHOOL DISTRICT Nov. 8, 2021

The Board of Directors of the Burlington-Edison School District No. 100 met on Monday, November 8, 2021, at 4:30 p.m. via zoom.

Board Members attended via zoom: President Roger Howard, Vice-President Troy Wright, Members, Holly Nielsen, David Lowell and Rich Wesen.

Staff members present: Laurel Browning, Superintendent; and Deputy Board Secretary, Jennifer Dalton.

Staff members online: Dr. Bryan Jones, Assistant Superintendent; Director of Finance & Operations, Valori Vargas; Executive Director of Student Support Services, Jeff Brown; Executive Director of Learning & Communications, Todd Setterlund; and Director of Human Resources, Jen Whitney.

Call to Order

President, Roger Howard, called the meeting to order at 4:30 p.m.

BHCC Updates

Liz Wilhelm, the Burlington Healthy Community Coalition (BHCC) program coordinator, stated that the Coalition had been going for over 30 years. The current mission of the BHCC is to support and promote healthy environments and opportunities for all youth to gain skills and receive positive recognition to prevent and reduce youth substance use. The BHCC is a partnership of schools, families, and community members representing the diversity of the broader Burlington area.

There are several B-ESD staff members, including Jenny Cole, Todd Setterlund, Jenn Angelis, Rich Wesen, and Jeff Brown. They have been working on a 5-year Drug-Free Communities Grant at United General District during a 12-month action plan. The Coalition has two goals: to sustain a community-based Youth Substance Use Disorder Prevention Coalition and partnership building. The BHCC is a partnership of schools, families, and community members representing the diversity of the broader Burlington area. Ms. Wilhelm commented that some of the current projects the Coalition was working on were: National Drug Take-Back Day, BHCC Spring Citizenship awards, Varsity in Volunteerism, tracking emerging trends, partnerships with liquor and cannabis boards, skill building training, promoting strengthen families program in English and Spanish.

Character Strong

High School Principal, Jeff Baines, updated the Board on ways to implement character strong within the B-EHS Community through advisory, building relationships, staff and student recognition, temperature checks, greetings students at the door, character dares, and through daily modeling. Mr. Baines gave examples of the relationship builders and advisory with character strong lessons built into it. He shared the SERVE Model and

explained the temperature checks he uses to check on staff and students through google surveys.

The high school has increased student recognition for their academics, character traits, activities/athletics and culture. Another Character Strong trait is the Student Character Dare, which is to buy a friend a drink or ice cream "just because." There is also the Staff Character Dare, which would be to email encouragement and/or gratitude to one staff member. Through Character Strong, they have increased staff recognition with Tiger Pride Awards.

ESSER Funds

Director of Finance & Operations, Valori Vargas updated the Board on Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief Fund (ESSER fund). She stated that this fund was allocated to prevent, prepare for or respond to the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic, including its impact on the social, emotional, mental health and academic needs of students. In addition, they are to be used to help safely reopen and sustain the safe operation of schools and address the impact of the coronavirus pandemic on students. Ms. Vargas stated that there are three different grants totaling over \$9.6 million for the district with just over \$5.2 million left. The funds will be available until 2024.

Superintendent Browning thanked the school nurses, Tessa McIlraith, Sara Dossen, Robyn Nylander and Christy Hovik for the work they had been doing at the schools.

At approximately 5:26 p.m. there being no further business before the Board, the meeting was adjourned.



Board President



Board Secretary