

The August 5, 2009 Work Session of the Byron Board of Education was brought to order by Mr. Randy Markley, President at 6:30 p.m. in the Superintendent's Office, Byron High School, 312 W. Maple Avenue, Byron, MI 48418.

MEMBERS PRESENT: J. Anibal, A. Lawrence, R. Markley, M. McGuire,
J. Vandemark, G. Viener

MEMBERS ABSENT: D. Crawford

ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF PRESENT: D. Scow

CENTRAL OFFICE STAFF PRESENT: P. Ebner

OTHERS PRESENT: None

Buildings Tour

Board members completed a tour of the Byron Elementary School, Byron Middle School and Byron High School to assess building needs.

Kindergarten Plan

Mr. Scow distributed information and discussed the Kindergarten Plan for the 2009-10 school year. The three options are:

Option 1: ½ Day Kindergarten with “Extended Learning” – ½ day kindergarten class in the morning and one in the afternoon preceded or followed by “Extended Learning” in the morning or afternoon. The morning and afternoon kindergarten classes will be taught by either Mrs. Bedell or Mrs. Dorff. The extended learning class will be taught by Title I teacher, Ms. Wheaton. These students will ride to and from school on the bus or be transported by parents. They will report to school at 8:00 a.m. and be finished at 3:00 p.m.

Option 2: ½ Day Kindergarten with “Academic Enrichment” – ½ day kindergarten class in the afternoon preceded by a ½ day “Academic Enrichment” in the morning. This will be staffed with our existing child care staff and only available to students who are enrolled in BES Kindergarten. These students will ride to and from school on the bus or be transported by parents. They will report to school at 8:00 a.m. and be finished at 3:00 p.m. (This is likely to be a combination of academic skills and socialization.)

Option 3: ½ Day Kindergarten only – One ½ day kindergarten class will be offered in the morning for parents who wish to have their child only attend for ½ day. These children will be able to ride the bus to school and parents who wish to take advantage of this morning class may pick their children at the appropriate time after kindergarten. The district will not be able to provide transportation home for these students.

Other information:

- Student have been assigned to a kindergarten teacher (Mrs. Bedell or Mrs. Dorff) and this teacher will not change unless it is absolutely necessary to make a change.
- Students will be assigned to an “Academic Enrichment” period for the first three weeks of school based on class size and requests.
- During the first 2-3 weeks of school all students will be tested by their teachers and recommendations and changes will be made based on the test results.
- Those who need additional help will be scheduled in the “Extended Learning.” Their kindergarten teacher will stay the same.
- Those who will benefit from enrichment activities and don't need assistance in specific academic areas will be scheduled in the “Academic Enrichment.” Their kindergarten teacher will stay the same.
- There will be no additional cost or fee for any of the options. Lunch may be purchased from the Food Service Department for students who are at school all day or students may bring a lunch.
- No bus service is provided after morning ½ day only kindergarten – parents must provide transportation or child care or children must be in “Academic Enrichment” or “Extended Learning” in the afternoon.
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The Board also discussed the advantages and disadvantages of full day kindergarten.

Board Goals & Code of Ethics

The Board reviewed and discussed the Board Goals that Mr. Scow developed from the July 15th Board Workshop facilitated by Mary Kerwin of MASB. The goals were discussed and revised and will be presented at the August

17th Board meeting for adoption. The Board also agreed that they felt it was very important that Mission Statement be included on the agenda for all Board meetings.

Regarding the Code of Ethics, Mr. Scow noted that there was no action required at this time, but would ask that the Board review the statements and let him know their comments.

Graduation Date

The Board discussed the advantages and disadvantages releasing seniors earlier in the spring than the remainder of the student body. Mr. Scow noted that he would survey the other schools in Shiawassee County to see how many of them have an early release date for seniors.

Title IX Investigation Update

Mr. Scow noted that the Office of Civil Rights investigation did not substantiate the claim against the school that a middle school student was sexually harassed in a middle school hallway. Mr. Scow shared copies of a press release that was published in the Flint Journal and the Argus Press stating that no sexual harassment was found, but that the district does need to improve how it handles such complaints.

Policy Changes

Mr. Scow distributed copies of a summary of policy changes along with the actual policies for the second half of the 2008-2009 school year from NEOLA. He asked that the Board review them for the first reading at the August 17, 2009 meeting.

- **Tobacco Free Policy** – the district’s current policy on use of tobacco on school premises prohibits the use of tobacco on school grounds except in designated areas and on Saturdays, Sundays and after 6:00 p.m. on days during which there are regularly-scheduled school hours. The Board discussed changing this policy so that the campus would be smoke free.

Board Meeting Calendar

Mr. Scow distributed a calendar for the 2009-2010 school year of meeting and work session dates. The Board agreed that they would like the regular meetings to begin at 7:00 p.m. rather than 7:30 p.m. Since the time of the regular meetings was established at the Organizational Meeting on July 13th, the August 17th meeting agenda will contain an action item to change the time to 7:00 p.m. (Copy of schedule attached)

August 14th MASB Workshop - Lansing

Mr. Scow invited Board members to attend a workshop sponsored by MASB on August 14th titled, "Districts in Distress: Preparing for the Worst." Topics of the workshop will cover several areas including: "Economic Update," "Crisis Communication," "Dealing with Deficits," "Managing Conflict, Impasse and Beyond," "Labor Relations" and others.

Negotiations Update

Mr. Scow and the Board discussed communication and present offers from both sides which are on the table.

Adjournment

Moved by Anibal, supported by Viener, that the Board Work Session adjourn at 10:07 p.m.
Vote (Voice Vote): Yes 6, Absent 1, No 0. Motion Approved. Meeting Adjourned.

Respectfully Submitted,

By

Michael McGuire
Secretary

**2009-2010 Calendar
Byron Area Schools
Board of Education**

Wednesday, August 5	Board Work Session	Office	6:00 PM
Monday, August 17	Board Meeting	Library	7:00 PM
Monday, September 21	Board Meeting	Library	7:00 PM
Wednesday, October 7	Board Work Session	Office	6:00 PM
Monday, October 19	Board Meeting	Library	7:00 PM
Monday, November 16	Board Meeting	Library	7:00 PM
Wednesday, December 9	Board Work Session	Office	6:00 PM
Monday, December 14	Board Meeting	Library	7:00 PM
Monday, January 18	Board Meeting	Library	7:00 PM
Tuesday, January 19	Board Self Evaluation (TBD)		
Wednesday, February 3	Board Work Session	Office	6:00 PM
	Superintendent Evaluation		
Monday, February 8	Board Meeting	Library	7:00 PM
Monday, March 15	Board Meeting	Library	7:00 PM
	Administrator Contracts		
Wednesday, April 14	Board Work Session	Office	6:00 PM
Monday, April 19	Board Meeting	Library	7:00 PM
	Teacher Recommendations		
Monday May 17	Board Meeting	Library	7:00 PM
TBD	Graduation	Gymnasium	TBD
Monday, June 21	Board Meeting	Library	7:00 PM