SPECIAL MEETING

A Special meeting of the Benzie County Central Board of Education was held Monday, November 17, 2026, in the Board of Education Conference Room.

President Childs called the meeting to order at 5:15 pm.

Members Present: Mr. Childs, Mrs. Gillison, Mrs. Campana, Mr. Egeler, Mr. Kempton, Mr. Smith

Members Absent: Mr. Barnard, Keelin Rineer (non-voting member)

26-27-031 It was moved by Mr. Smith and supported by Mrs. Gillison to approve the agenda with one amendment: Action Item D. Approval of the resolution authorizing the superintendent to engage legal counsel to pursue the District's available legal and contractual remedies relating to the work performed by Schepers, including initiating litigation if necessary.
Ayes: 6 Nays: 0 Motion Carried

Opening Statement:

We are a team. We leave our personal opinions at the door and we are bound by Policy 2302 to faithfully discharge the office of a board member and keep in mind our primary concern is the educational welfare of students focusing on governance and fiduciary obligations of the district including duties of loyalty and care, placing the District's interests above the Board member's personal interests.

26-27-032 It was moved by Mrs. Gillison and supported by Mrs. Campana to approve Consent Grouping items as presented. NONE
Ayes: 6 Nays: 0 Motion Carried

District Impact Team Update: NONE

Student Council Report: NONE

Administration Report:

A. Board of Education Interviews – Vacancy Appointment – The Board of Education interviewed Leanna Davison at 5:20 pm, asking the following set of questions:

- **Tell us about yourself and what makes you passionate about serving on the school board?**
- **Share your vision for education in this community. Include any priorities or special areas of interest.**
- **What experiences or skills have prepared you to serve as a board member?**
- **Describe your experience working with parents, community members, and other stakeholders.**
- **What unique qualities or perspectives would you bring to the board?**

- **How do you plan to stay informed and engaged with the school district?**
- **What do you think is the board's role compared to the administration's role in running the school system?**
- **How do you see yourself working with the superintendent and other board members?**
- **What are the biggest challenges facing the school system? What is a point of pride for our school system?**

B. Resignations:

- **NONE**

C. Retirements:

- **NONE**

Board of Education/Committee Reports –

A. Buildings and Grounds Committee – No Update
B. Policy Committee – No Update
C. Finance Committee –No Update
D. Parent Advisory Committee – No Update
E. Liaison/Curriculum – No Update
F. Ad Hoc – No Update
G. Negotiations – No Update

Audience Participation (Agenda Items Only) – NONE

Discussion Topics:

A. NONE

Action Topics:

26-27-033 It was moved by Mr. Egeler and supported by Mrs. Campana to approve the Board of Education Vacancy Appointment to Leanna Davidson finishing appointed term through 2028.

Ayes: 6 Nays: 0 Motion Carried

26-27-034 It was moved by Mr. Smith and supported by Mr. Egeler to approve to go into *CLOSED SESSION for Attorney Client Privilege after Audience Participation (Open Topics)*

Ayes: 6 Nays: 0 Motion Carried

Audience Participation (<u>Open Topics</u>): NONE

CLOSED SESSION – The Board of Education entered into *CLOSED SESSION* at 5:40 pm.

26-27-035 It was moved by Mr. Smith and supported by Mr. Egeler to approve to return to *OPEN SESSION at* 5:50 PM

Ayes: 6 Nays: 0 Motion Carried

26-27-036 It was moved by Mr. Egeler and supported by Mrs. Gillison to approve the resolution authorizing the superintendent to engage legal counsel to pursue the District's available legal and contractual remedies relating to the work performed by Schepers, including initiating litigation if necessary.

Ayes: 6 Nays: 0 Motion Carried

Discussion Topics: NONE

Board Communication: NONE

Announcements:

- **Regular Meeting – December 14, 2026 – 7:00 PM**

26-27-037 It was moved by Mr. Egeler and supported by Mr. Smith to adjourn the special meeting at 5:51 pm.

Ayes: 6 Nays: 0 Motion Carried

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Secretary, Board of Education

Please note that the November 17, 2026 Special Board Minutes are subject for approval on December 14, 2026

Respectfully Submitted,

Catina Crossman

Executive Assistant to the Superintendent

Board of Education Administrative Assistant

Director of Communications

Schools of Choice Coordinator

Benzie County Central Schools