



Battle Creek Rotary Club Newsletter: The RotoScoop Week of October 11, 2021

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July 2021- 2022

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BCPS Mileage Proposal J (they/their), BCPS Board Member



When the BCPS Mileage failed to pass this past spring, J Slaby, a BCPS Board member was determined to try a different approach. The mileage effort on the May 2021 ballot failed by only 40 votes. This time around the

BCPS strategy is to thoroughly engage BC residents, businesses, Bearcat families, and Bearcat alumni. Through awareness activities such as painting the football stadium entrance and providing free FB game tickets over 2000 people packed the stadium and learned about the mileage. The board is trying yard signs and more traditional and inclusive methods to engage and inform the community in hopes of passing the mileage this next time around.

The mileage proposal is for \$44.8 million to transform two BCP middle schools. The plan is to transform Northwestern Middle School into a K–8 visual and performing arts academy and Springfield Middle School into a service-learning school for 6-8th grade students. In addition to extensive physical renovations at both schools, students and surrounding businesses and communities will reap other benefits.

Students at Northwestern will:

- Have more opportunities to explore their passion in the arts,
- Experience increased stability and build strong, long-term relationships with educators; and
- Engage in community performances and true community partnership, positively influencing the surrounding neighborhood and the community at large.

Students at Springfield will:

- Create strong connections with their community, develop communication and problem-solving skills, build empathy and belonging and
- Experience high-quality education that prepares students for success in college, career, and our community.

With these new opportunities and quality curricula, BCPS hope to increase student enrollment, attendance, achievement, and retention.

<https://www.battlecreekpublicschools.org/programs/middle-school-transformation>



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J Slaby was elected to Battle Creek Public Schools' Board of Education in 2016 for a 6-term. As a proud Bearcat alum, they support passing policy that supports due process, students' voice, strong community partnerships, and the district's communications & outreach. Slaby has also taken on the role of the board's Legislative Advocate and is co-chair of the BCPS' middle school bond initiative. Professionally Slaby is a Digital Creator and UX Designer, who has worked for 7+ years to help businesses and professionals authentically convey themselves and their talents through digital strategy and design.

Announcements

Volunteer Opportunities

Charitable Union Coat Drive: Thursday and Friday, October 21 and 22nd from 10 am to 5 pm. Contact Teresa@CharitableUnion.org to sign up for a shift. This is a new setup for distribution due to Covid 19 precautions.

Share Center Outside Clean up , Saturday October 23, 2021 from 10-12 noon. Contact jillandersongrants@gmail.com

Membership Minute: The Membership Committee's goal is to recruit 10 new members by the end of the year. Incite someone to join us for a free lunch and community networking.

Interested in serving on the BC Rotary Club Board or on a committee? We are in the process of drawing up the ballot for our next election so contact President Tom (t.ebeling@att.net) or Secretary Rita McPhail (rita@rita@mcphail.com) and let us know.

We are now meeting in person at the Kool Center as we did before the pandemic. We will continue to provide a Zoom link up to members as long as it is needed. We use the same Zoom link and password for every meeting.

Join Zoom Meeting at:

<https://zoom.us/j/93233115265> Meeting ID: 932 3311 5265 Passcode: 049691

Upcoming Programs and Events

10/18/2021 New vision

Monique French, WA UMC

10/25/2021 Battle Creek Economic Development

John Hart

Contact Karla Fales if you have any ideas: KFales@carewellservices.org