

Brown, Tiffany

Subject: FW: Hello from Pat Rush - Benton Harbor re Resolution & Day of Learning

From: Patricia Rush <patricia.rush@bhas.org>

Sent: Thursday, June 27, 2019 11:29 AM

To: Laidlaw, Emily; School Board; Daniel R. Martin

Subject: Hello from Pat Rush - Benton Harbor re Resolution & Day of Learning

Emily - [copying BHAS Board & Dan Martin-Thrun]

Thanks for the opportunity to meet with you and representatives of the Governor's Staff, Treasury and MDE yesterday. We are eager to move ahead with a plan that puts our students first and is mutually agreeable between the State, our Board, and our community. As we continue the process of collaborating with the State, we want to ensure our planning meets your objectives and timeframe as noted in the meeting yesterday.

We did some planning on the drive home from Lansing yesterday, and:

- we will have a Board meeting early next week to adopt the resolution to declare our intent to move forward collaboratively with the State and to schedule the Day of Learning at the High School; and
- we want to encourage teachers and students to attend, so we are scheduling the Day of Learning for Noon-6pm - to accommodate Summer School and students in Special Education programs.

We have planned the following timeline, and have corresponding questions for you.

TIMELINE:

1) **Tuesday JULY 2, 2019 at 6pm - the BHAS Board will hold a Regular Board Meeting** - and we plan to adopt a Resolution of support for moving forward and engaging in joint work with the Governor's Office to develop a plan that puts our students first. At yesterday's meeting, you said you would send us a draft of that Resolution. If possible, could you send us by not later than Monday July 1? My recollection is that you indicated you may be able to get it to us by this Friday, which would be better if possible, so that we have adequate time to review the proposed language and make modifications that can be shared with you prior to our meeting on Tuesday. Please let me know your timeframe on providing us with a copy of the proposed Resolution. Thanks

2) **Either Tuesday JULY 9 - or - Wednesday, JULY 10** from noon-6pm, BHAS will hold a Special Board Meeting and a Public Hearing as a **DAY OF LEARNING**. [Please note that we are confirming with Board members if they can attend and which date and time will work best for their schedule; as noted yesterday, 3 of our Board members have full time jobs. We anticipate that representatives from the Governor's office will be present for the Day of Learning, but we need to accommodate the schedules of our Board members. Still, if you have a preference for the date, please let me know.]

DAY OF LEARNING - planned Agenda:

12-12:30: Welcome by the BHAS Board, Explanation of Agenda and Process to choose a Transformation Specialist

12:30-1:30 Presentation by Specialist #1

1:30-2:30 Presentation by Specialist #2

2:30-3:00 Break

3:00-4:00 Presentation by Specialist #3

4:00-5:00 Presentation by Specialist #4 [if you have 4]

5:00-5:30 Discussion by Board & Public of Specialist Presentations

5:30-6:00 Vote & choose one Transformation Specialist

QUESTIONS:

There is A LOT for us to organize in the next 11 days (especially including a 4 day holiday weekend).

Do you want me to contact the Transformation Specialist firms - OR will you or someone from your office do so?

We need to notify Specialists of the possible dates, location, Agenda, etc., for the Day of Learning.

[We would ask the Specialists to arrive at 11am - so we can show them the room setup, coordinate their PowerPoints, arrange handouts, etc.]

We need to ask them to bring 100 copies of all handout materials in order to provide the materials to the Board and the public.

We will be set up for them to present a PowerPoint if they want.

also:

- by Monday July 1, we will have a short description of BHAS and our challenges - to send to the potential Transformation Specialists. The Specialist Plans must address the unique challenges of our School District - not just a standard consulting pitch.

- at least ONE of each Transformation Specialist team making the pitch at the BHAS meeting / Day of Learning must be the **actual consultant** who will work with BHAS. We do not want any bait and switch. Often Consultants send a flashy person to do the presentation - then send interns to actually do the consult. Relationships and trust are essential – not only between the Board and the State, but between the Board and the consulting firm/consultant. We (and the Public) need to meet who we will be working with as we move forward in this endeavor. If the Specialist cannot guarantee which of their staff will work directly with BHAS, we believe that they must be automatically disqualified from consideration. If you believe that is unacceptable, please let us know why.

THANKS.

We are already working hard to make this collaboration happen.

Pat