

Our Mission

*Educating and inspiring each student
to navigate successfully
in a global community*

EAST GRAND RAPIDS PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Kent County, Michigan

REGULAR MEETING of the East Grand Rapids Board of Education

Community Board Room at the James E. Morse Administration Center at Woodcliff
2915 Hall Street SE, East Grand Rapids, MI 49506

Monday, December 3, 2012

MINUTES

The **REGULAR MEETING** of the East Grand Rapids Public Schools Board of Education, Kent County, Michigan, was held on Monday, December 3, 2012, in the Community Board Room of the James E. Morse Administration Center at Woodcliff, 2915 Hall Street, SE, East Grand Rapids, MI 49506.

BOARD OF EDUCATION

Present: Brian Ellis, Bob Minnema, Steve Edison, Michelle Rabideau, Peter Ruppert, Beth Milanowski, Susan Levine

Absent: None

Administration: Dr. Sara Magaña Shubel, Kevin Philipps, Jeanne Glowicki, Kathy Wisniewski, Doug Jenkins, Jenny Fee, Craig Weigel, Lori Johnston, Peter Stuursma, Caroline Breault-Cannon, Anthony Morey

Meeting Called to Order

President Ellis called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

Acknowledgment of Guests – None

Public Comments – None

Board Secretary's Report: Communications to and from the Board – Steve Edison

- The Board received a Thank You from Matthew Putnam for the Schuler gift card on the birth of their son, Graham.
- The Board received a Thank You from Amanda Rettig for the Schuler gift card on the birth of their son, Gabriel.
- The Board received communication from Rachelle Winterberger and Nora Verdier on the school libraries.

High School Student Council President's Report

Karl Schneider, Senior Class President, reported that the Student Council is working on a food drive and will be feeding 62 families this year. Students are pleased to be able to give back to the community in a meaningful way.

PRESENTATION / DISCUSSION

Administration of Oath to Newly Elected Board Member, Susan Levine

Judie Malec, Secretary to the board and superintendent, administered the Oath of Office to Susan Levine. Member Levine was elected at the November 6, 2012, election, and will serve as a member of the Board of Education for East Grand Rapids Public Schools, Kent County, Michigan. Susan's term will run through December 31, 2014.

Recognition of East Grand Rapids Board of Education Member, Peter Ruppert

Peter Ruppert, EGRPS board member, was recognized for his past five years of service to the East Grand Rapids Board of Education. Peter was presented with a gift book on behalf of the board and superintendent.

Member Ruppert congratulated Michelle Rabideau, Susan Levine, and Elizabeth Welch Lykins on their recent election to the board. Ruppert thanked the board, administration, and teachers for their commitment and dedication to East Grand Rapids Public Schools. Ruppert encouraged the team to continually strive to improve and reach another level. He also encouraged the board to continue to foster debate, discussion, and disagreement. Ruppert thanked the board, administration, and community for their support.

High School Guidance Report (Enclosure #8)

Lori Johnston presented the 2012 High School Guidance Report, reporting on college applications and acceptance numbers, post secondary plans, ACT scores indicating college readiness, as well as a comparison of like districts, and ACT vs. SAT comparisons and explanations. Historical data was also presented. Johnston reported that an EGR junior student scored a perfect ACT score of 36 this year. Advanced placement testing and courses were detailed, the number of students who take the tests, as well as overall results. AP Honor roll was awarded to EGRHS again this year, which is a great recognition for our students and district. Historical National Merit Scholar data was presented.

A discussion was held among the Board.

Engage 1:1 Presentation (Enclosure #9)

Doug Jenkins, Director of Technology, and Jenny Fee, High School Principal, provided background information on the Engage 1:1 initiative, reviewing the pilot programs and professional development, learning commons, and technology support. The Engage implementation at the high school since the beginning of the 2012-2013 school year involved 95% voluntary/encouraged participation by our students. Presently, we have a group of nine teachers and technology staff who set goals to support technology integration and implementation. A video was presented of high school teachers sharing information on ways that the Engage 1:1 initiative has improved their teaching and students' learning capabilities. Fee reported on the impact on instruction and shared that when students are engaged with more depth and breadth of engagement, collaborate, and use critical thinking skills, all these things help students become better learners and achieve more. Access to these types of instructional strategies allows students to learn more, and teachers can see formative assessments instantly. Tiered lessons are available to direct the students to resources that work best for them. Teachers are at different places and pushing themselves to the next level and this has instructionally been very positive. Teachers have developed classroom management strategies in ways that work well with technology and sharing these ideas with each other. Feedback from the Engage website has typically involved clarifying questions about the devices, textbook access, software options, etc. Network/Internet Access involves continuous monitoring and fine-tuning of the wireless network. All challenges have been addressed and continue to be adjusted and monitored. We will continue to gather feedback and provide student, staff, and parent surveys later in the spring regarding the initiative. We will continue to monitor the student participation rate as well as monitor our network bandwidth.

The future plans were presented with the rollout of the Engage 1:1 initiative at the middle school scheduled for the fall of 2013. Middle school staff will begin intensive professional development on December 7. The district technology plan was presented.

A discussion was held among the Board.

ACTION ITEMS - CONSENT AGENDA

Background: In order to save time during the meeting, we are using a Consent Agenda. Items in the Consent Agenda include those that are routine or have been previously discussed by the Board of Education. Any Board Member may request to have any item removed for a separate discussion and vote.

Recommendation: Motion to approve the item in the Consent Agenda, Numbers 10-13.

Approval of Minutes of REGULAR Meeting of 10/22/2012 (Enclosure #10)

Approval of Minutes of SPECIAL Meeting of 11/7/2012 (Enclosure #11)

Approval of Payment of Bills for October and November 2012 (Enclosure #12)

Approval of Overnight Student Activities (Enclosure #13)

In accordance with Board of Education Policy #7490, the district has various trips and overnight athletic and student activities as outlined in Enclosure #13 for approval by the Board.

Member Edison moved to approve Consent Agenda Items 10-13. Member Milanowski seconded the motion. Motion passed 7-0.

OTHER ACTION ITEMS

Approval of 2012-2013 Amended Budget (Enclosure #14)

Background: Each fall, the Board Finance Committee recommends a Budget Amendment to the Board of Education. The Finance Committee has reviewed the proposed amendment.

Recommendation: Motion to approve the amendment for the 2012-2013 budget as listed in Enclosure #14.

Kevin Philipps presented details of the 2012-2013 Amended Budget including the Proposed 2012-2013 General Fund amendment, Sinking Fund, and Debt Retirement Fund. The original budget was reviewed. A summary of revenue changes, as well as a summary of expense changes were outlined. Philipps described future years' budget forecasts and how the legislative issues affect the outlook.

Philipps presented information on the Oxford Foundation, the recommendations in the legislative bill, and the implementation. An overview of House Bill 5923 was presented as a bill that expands the types of public schools, who can create a public school and receive School Aid Funds. House Bill 6004 Educational Achievement Authority (EAA) was also presented. This bill would expand the EAA to the schools with standardized test scores in the bottom 5% and possibly beyond, and the EAA's authority over closed/unused and unoccupied school buildings. Philipps reported on the Capital Borrowing Situation, as well as the 2013-2014 Budget Development Process.

President Ellis commented on the legislative assault on public education. Dr. Shubel reported that the board and administration have had many conversations with state representatives to discuss the concerns of these bills as they are presented. Dr. Shubel also thanked Elizabeth Welch Lykins for her tireless efforts in advocating for our schools and communicating legislative issues to our community.

Member Edison moved to approve the Resolution as presented in Enclosure #14. Member Minnema seconded the motion. A discussion was held among the Board. Motion passed 7-0.

ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS

Superintendent

- Dr. Shubel presented the EGR Schools Foundation Grants Worksheet as detailed in Enclosure #15a. The annual Foundation Hurrah will be held on Saturday, March 9, 2013.
- Dr. Shubel announced two special board meetings upcoming, the Curriculum Work Session and Superintendent's Mid-Year Evaluation, to be held on January 14, 2013.
- Dr. Shubel announced the All Staff Holiday Breakfast which will be held on Thursday, December 20, 2012. Board members are invited to attend.
- Weiming Education Group – Dr. Shubel updated the board on current involvement with the Weiming group. EGR hosted a group of visitors from Weiming and had a great opportunity to explore the high school with them, address their questions, and where we are headed. As a district, we have participated with many foreign exchange student programs in the past, and this is another means of hosting students from other countries. Dr. Shubel reported on her trip to China, having visited many schools and programs in different parts of the country during the week visit. She presented video highlights from the visit to China.

Assistant Superintendent of Business

- Oxford Foundation – Kevin Philipps presented information previously in the amended budget report.

Assistant Superintendent of Instruction

- Jeanne Glowicki presented board members with this year's January and February Professional Development sessions, with the planning committee in place for the two-day session in February. January's professional development day is on January 25, with the morning concentration on evaluations and the afternoon in individual groups or technology integration.
- Jeanne Glowicki invited board members to the Martin Luther King Jr. Community Celebration to be held on Monday, January 21, 2013.

Board of Education Members' Report

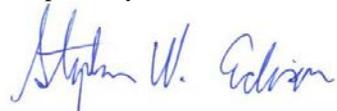
- President Ellis thanked everyone for attending tonight's board meeting.

President Ellis announced the next board meeting will be held on Monday, January 14, 2013, – Curriculum Workshop at 5:00 p.m., and the Superintendent's Mid-Year Evaluation at 6:00 p.m. which is a closed session meeting. The January 28, 2013, board meeting has been rescheduled to February 4, 2013.

ADJOURNMENT

President Ellis adjourned the meeting at 8:38 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Stephen W. Edison, Secretary
East Grand Rapids Public Schools Board of Education

* Minutes for this meeting will be available in the Superintendent's Office at 2915 Hall St. SE, East Grand Rapids, MI 49506. The phone number is 235-3535.

** If you plan to attend and have a special need and require accommodation to attend this meeting, please contact Dr. Sara M. Shubel, Superintendent, at 235-3535.