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## **REGULAR Meeting of the East Grand Rapids Board of Education**

Woodcliff Center Community Board Room, 2915 Hall Street SE,  
East Grand Rapids, MI 49506.  
For Information -Phone 616-235-3535.

**Monday, January 24, 2005 7:30 p.m.**

### **MINUTES**

The REGULAR MEETING of the East Grand Rapids Public Schools Board of Education, Kent County, Michigan, was held on Monday, January 24, 2005 in the Community Board Room, Woodcliff Center, 2915 Hall Street SE, East Grand Rapids, MI 49506.

#### **Board of Education:**

**Present:** Mrs. Beth Lent, Mrs. Natalie Kuras, Mr. Brian Ellis, Mrs. Rosalie Stein, Mr. Charlie Denton, and Mrs. Stacy Trierweiler

**Absent:** Mr. Joe Camp

**Administration:** Dr. James Morse, Mr. Doug Derks, Mrs. Jeanne Glowicki, Mrs. Linda Kehm, Mrs. Kathy Wisniewski, Mr. Mark Tompkins, Mrs. Joanne Kuklewski, Mr. Doug Jenkins and Mr. Pat Cwayna

#### **Meeting Called to Order**

Mrs. Lent called the meeting to order at 7:32 p.m. Mrs. Lent announced that the Lakeside presentation will take place in the gymnasium and the Board will move there for that presentation. That presentation will be moved up to follow the "We the People" presentation. We will then continue on with the rest of the agenda in order.

**Acknowledgment of Guests** - Guests were recognized during the public comments.

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Public Comments – Andrea Haidle (3531 Reeds Point Court) announced she is running as a candidate for the Kent ISD Board of Education. She mentioned that she applauds the remarks from Beth Lent about the budget crisis we are facing. Cindy Bartman, Mayor of East Grand Rapids (336 Manhattan) thanked Christine Vettese for her years of service to the district and presented her with a proclamation from the City of East Grand Rapids honoring Mrs. Vettese. Board members gave various comments and thanked Mrs. Vettese for her service and dedication to the District. Diane Bok (2010 Robinson Road) announced she is a candidate for a seat on the East Grand Rapids Public Schools Board of Education. Julie Ridenour (925 Orchard) also announced that she is a candidate for the East Grand Rapids Public School Board of Education. Natalie Kuras announced she will not be seeking a third term for the Board of Education and Rosalie Stein also announced that she will not be seeking a third term.

Communications to and from the Board – A thank you card was received from Janice Yates for the goodie basket following the birth of her twins. A thank you card was received from Christine Vettese thanking the Board for the open house, gifts and kind words for her retirement. A thank you card was received from Pat King for the book placed in the library in memory of her mother-in-law. Mrs. Lent stated that the Board of Education has scheduled a Special Meeting for the Superintendent's Evaluation on Wednesday, March 1<sup>st</sup> at 5:30 p.m.

### Recognition of:

East Grand Rapids "We the People" 2004 State Champions – Dr. Morse, Mrs. Lent and Mr. Denton presented the following team members with certificates for capturing the State Championship: John Abraham, Ross Brenneman, Theodore Busch, Katherine Faasse, William Frayer, Kyle Fuller, Joseph Gallmeyer, William Gallmeyer, Katherine Harger, James Hogan, Christina Kim, Peter Meyer, Sarah Stevens, Tully Svekric, Alyssa Titche, Gabriel Tourek, Mitri Wohms, Teresa Monticello, Leyton Nelson, Katherine Pease, Page Redford, Nicole Sherwood, Ari Siegel, Karl Stark and Katherine Wiseman. Pierre Sirois, the Faculty Advisor thanked the parents and students for their dedication and all of their hard work.

### Presentation:

Lakeside Elementary Students: Kindness Counts – The Kindness Counts presentation was held in the gymnasium. The following students were involved in the presentation: Jack Swain, Elle Drake, Teddy Dole, Riley Miller-Pierce, Corbin Johnson, Ryan Gallagher, Mattie Tiggelman, Nathan Berman, Molly Broekhuis, Mackenzie Cole, Erin Dougherty, Marie LaChance, Marie Schlick, Julia Surman, AJ Zawacki, Sophia Stephens, Emma Kuske, Jack Tiggelman, Emily Johnston, Frannie Mulhall, Peter Stewart, Troy Gotch, Joe Donahue, Laura Donahue, Alex Weiss, Kiellie O'Mara, Kasia Roubal, Charlotte King, Yiqing Dong, Elliott Zimmerman, Nick Atwater, Lindsay Broekhuis, Alexis Fantin, Daniel Cornelius and Master Jones.

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High School Student Council President's Report - Mr. Tom Bander

The High School had two fundraisers, one for Cystic Fibrosis and the other for DeVos Children's Hospital that each raised \$200 with the Student Council matching the funds. They also participated in and raised money for the Tsunami relief fund. Wednesday is the annual blood drive at the High School. Work will begin shortly on prom and graduation.

EGREA President's Report - Mrs. Cynthia Bischoff - No report for this month.

Recognition of:

East Grand Rapids Board of Education Members for School Board Recognition Month January 2005 - Dr. Morse (Enclosure 9A)

Dr. Morse thanked the Board members for their service to the District and children of East Grand Rapids. Gifts and cookies were distributed to the Board members. There were also cookies given to members of the audience.

Recognition of Principal's Week - February 13-19, 2005 - Dr. James Morse (Enclosure 9B)

Mrs. Lent and Dr. Morse thanked the principals and administrators for all of their hard work throughout the year.

Discussion Items:

Middle School Social Studies Curriculum - Mrs. Jenny Fee

The Middle School Social Studies Curriculum Committee has reviewed the social studies curriculum for grades 6-8. Mrs. Jenny Fee and Mr. Anthony Morey, on behalf of the entire committee, presented the newly aligned curriculum and recommend corresponding resource materials to the Board of Education. (Enclosure #10)

K-12 Art Curriculum - Mrs. Holly Lampen, Mrs. Jill Gersch and Mrs. Sharon Pollice

The K-12 Art Curriculum Committee, made up of all district art teachers, members of the community, administrators, and a Board member, has reviewed and aligned the K-12 art curriculum. Members of the committee presented the new curriculum to the Board of Education. (Enclosure #11)

Drug and Alcohol Survey Results- Mr. Mark Tompkins

Each year the students at the high school take a survey regarding drug and alcohol use. Mr. Tompkins shared the results from this year's survey. The results will be presented to the community on February 2<sup>nd</sup>. (Enclosure #12)

Recommendation of Timeline and Numbers for 2005-06 Choice Program

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A timeline and projected choice numbers were presented and discussed with a request for Board approval at the February 28, 2005 regular meeting. (Enclosure #13) A total number of 51 students are recommended. This number includes 13 siblings but does not include the 6 employee children (per the new state law).

First Reading of Revised Policy #7055 (Comprehensive School Health Education) - (Enclosure #14)

Mrs. Lent stated that the Board had the revised policy #7055 in their "Additional Information" packets with the changes in language highlighted.

**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 Consent Agenda Numbers 15 through 22.

Approval of Minutes of REGULAR MEETING of 12/13/04 (Enclosure #15)

Approval of Minutes of SPECIAL MEETING on 1/17/05 (Enclosure #16)

Approval of Payment of Bills for December 2004. (Enclosure #17)

Approval of a Maternity and Unpaid Child Care Leave of Absence for Mrs. Erin Grin (First Grade - Lakeside) (Enclosure #18)

Background: Under provisions of the Master Agreement in Article 15, Section M, Mrs. Erin Grin is requesting a maternity leave of absence beginning approximately April 20, 2005 and an unpaid child care leave of absence for the remainder of the 2004-2005 school year following the birth of her child.

Recommendation: Motion to approve the recommendation to grant to Mrs. Erin Grin a maternity leave of absence and an unpaid child-care leave for the remainder of the 2004-2005 school year upon the recommendation of the Superintendent.

Approval of a Maternity Leave of Absence for Mrs. Amanda Werner (Speech Therapist) (Enclosure #19)

Background: Under provisions of the Master Agreement in Article 15, Section M, Mrs. Amanda Werner is requesting a maternity leave of absence beginning approximately April 15, 2005 following the birth of her child.

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Recommendation: Motion to approve the recommendation to grant to Mrs. Amanda Werner a maternity leave of absence upon the recommendation of the Superintendent.

Approval of Additional High School and Athletic Overnight Trips (Enclosure #20)

Background: In accordance with Board of Education Policy #7490, the district has various trips and overnight athletic and student activities as outlined in Enclosure #20 for approval by the Board.

Recommendation: Motion to approve various trips and overnight athletic and student activities as outlined in Enclosure #20.

Approval of Resolution Calling Regular School Election (Enclosure #21)

Background: The administration requests approval by the Board of Education of a resolution to call a regular school election on Tuesday, May 3, 2005

Recommendation: Motion to approve the resolution to call a regular election on Tuesday, May 3, 2005.

Mr. Denton asked to have items #22 and #23 removed from the Consent Agenda and put under Other Action Items. Mr. Ellis asked for clarification on item #20 prior to the vote. Mrs. Stein moved to approve Consent Agenda Items #15 through #21. Mr. Ellis seconded the motion. Motion passed 6-0.

*Other Action Items:*

Second Reading and Approval of Revised Policy #7175 (Parent(s)/Guardian(s) Involvement Policy - General Education and Title I Programs) (Enclosure #22)

The Board had a first reading of revised Board Policy #7175 - Parent(s)/Guardian(s) Involvement Policy - General Education and Title I Programs, at the Board of Education meeting on December 13, 2004.

Mr. Denton moved to approve the motion to approve the revised Board Policy #7175 as recommended by the Board Policy Committee and the Superintendent. Mrs. Trierweiler seconded the motion. Motion passed 6-0.

Second Reading and Approval of Revised Policy #1020 (Election of Board Members and School Elections) (Enclosure #23)

The Board had a first reading of revised Board Policy #1020 - Election of Board Members and School Elections, at the Board of Education meeting on December 13, 2004.

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Mr. Denton moved to approve the motion to approve the revised Board Policy #1020 as recommended by the Board Policy Committee and the Superintendent. Mr. Ellis seconded the motion. Motion passed 6-0.

Second Reading and Approval of Revised Policy #1190 (Minutes of Board Meetings)

The Board had a first reading of revised Policy #1190 – Minutes of Board Meetings, at the Board of Education meeting on December 13, 2004. (Enclosure #24)

Mrs. Kuras moved to approve the motion to approve the revised Board Policy #1190 as recommended by the Board Policy Committee and the Superintendent. Mrs. Trierweiler seconded the motion. Motion passed 6-0.

Approval of a Facilities Maintenance Plan Contract with URS (Enclosure #25)

One of the goals in our Strategic Plan is to develop a long term Facilities Maintenance Plan. To facilitate this process, we recommend contracting with URS to develop a long term analysis of our facilities. The scope of the agreement is attached and has been reviewed and is being recommended by the Facilities Committee.

Mr. Ellis moved to approve the motion to approve the contract with URS to develop a long term Facilities Maintenance Plan per Enclosure #25. Mrs. Trierweiler seconded the motion. Motion passed 6-0.

Approval of the Schools of Choice Resolutions for 2005-2006

East Grand Rapids Public Schools has participated in the Kent Intermediate School District Collaborative Schools of Choice Program since its inception in the 1996-97 school year.

Approval of a Resolution to Participate in the 2005-06 Kent Intermediate School District Collaborative Schools of Choice Program (Enclosure #26A)

This is the fourth year of the new Choice Program.

Mrs. Stein moved to approve the motion to pass a resolution to participate in the Kent ISD Collaborative Schools of Choice Program for the 2005-06 school year as recommended by the Superintendent. Mrs. Trierweiler seconded the motion. Motion passed 6-0.

Approval of a Resolution to Opt Out of Section 105 State of Michigan Choice Plan (Enclosure #26B)

East Grand Rapids Public Schools has opted out of the State Choice Plan since the inception of the KISD Collaborative Schools of Choice Plan in the 1996-97 school year.

Mrs. Stein moved to approve the motion to pass a resolution to opt out of Section 105 of the State School Aid Act of 1979, as amended by Public Act 300 of 1996, of the State of Michigan Schools of Choice Program for the 2005-2006 school year, for the purpose of

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participating in an intermediate school district-wide schools of choice program. Mrs. Trierweiler seconded the motion. Motion passed 6-0.

Approval of a Resolution to Opt Out of Section 105c of the State 2005-06 Schools of Choice Plan (Enclosure #26C)

In accordance with Section 105c as permitted in the State School Aid Act, Public Act 119 of 1999, as amended by Public Act 297 of 2000, it is recommended that East Grand Rapids Public Schools not accept applications for enrollment from residents of contiguous intermediate school districts for the 2005-06 school year.

Mrs. Stein moved to approve the motion to pass a resolution to opt out of Section 105c as recommended by the Superintendent. Mrs. Trierweiler seconded the motion. Motion passed 6-0.

Administrative Reports

Superintendent

Revised Middle School Schedule for 2005-06 (Enclosure #27A)

Dr. Morse discussed the various changes made in the Middle School schedule previously and the changes to be made next school year. This will be completed with implementation of the current staffing level. The revised schedule was discussed by the Board members.

Teacher Evaluation Update (Enclosure #27B)

Dr. Morse reviewed the changes in the Teacher Evaluation Update (changes shown in bold). The Board members discussed the changes.

Assistant Supt. for Business

Budget Update and Communication Plan

Mr. Derks gave a brief overview and update of the budget and handed out a sheet showing the communication plan timeline.

West Michigan Health Insurance Pool Update

The application is in to the State for approval. A letter was received from the Finance Division with questions and comments. The document will have two more areas of review before finalization. The project is moving forward.

Update on Request For Proposal (RFP) for Food Service. We expect documents back from the various companies no later than April with approval to award the contract to come before the Board in April.

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Board Representative Report - No reports this month.

Adjournment

Mrs. Lent adjourned the meeting at 10:31 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Rosalie Stein, Secretary  
East Grand Rapids Board of Education

\* Minutes for this meeting will be available in the Superintendent's Office at 2915 Hall Street SE, East Grand Rapids, MI 49506.

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

Superintendent's Office - 01/25/05