

Our Mission
Educating and inspiring each student
to navigate successfully in a global community.

REGULAR Meeting of the East Grand Rapids Board of Education

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

Monday, May 23, 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, May 23, 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, Mr. Charlie Denton, Mr. Joe Camp, Mrs. Rosalie Stein, and Mrs. Stacy Trierweiler

Administration: Dr. James Morse, Mr. Doug Derks, Mr. Pat Cwayna, Mrs. Kathy Wisniewski, Mr. Doug Jenkins, Mr. Mark Tompkins, Mrs. Jeanne Glowicki, Mrs. Linda Kehm, Mr. Jerry Fouch and Dr. Ty Wessell

Meeting Called to Order

Mrs. Lent called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m. There is a new enclosure for Agenda Item #16.

Acknowledgment of Guests - None

Public Comments - Rita Maddox of 939 Plymouth SE - Mrs. Maddox wanted the Board to be aware of the legislation regarding funding for schools which is currently before the House. She asked the Board to consider passing this resolution. She also reminded the Board of the June 21st rally in Lansing and stated that the Legislative Committee wants at least 150 people from East Grand Rapids Public Schools to attend.

Communications to and from the Board - A thank you card was received from Mrs. Amanda Werner (Speech Therapist Wealthy and Lakeside Elementaries) for the gift certificate following the birth of her daughter.

EGREA President's Report - Mrs. Nancy McSkimming

Mrs. McSkimming introduced herself to everyone. She thanked parents in the buildings for bringing in lunch for teachers in support of Teacher Appreciation Week. She stated she is looking forward to working with the Board over the next year.

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Information Items

Strategic Plan Update – Presentation of recommendations from the District Assessment Committee (Superintendent's Goal #3) - Mr. Doug Jenkins

Dr. Morse introduced Mr. Jenkins, Mrs. Wisniewski, Mrs. Howard, Mrs. McSkimming, Mrs. Marjolijn van der Velde, Mr. Tompkins and Dr. Wessell. All of these people are members of this committee. The Committee presented an overview of the work of the District Assessment Committee the explained the recommendations of the committee. This information will be brought before the Board for approval on June 13, 2005.

Athletic Department Update – Mr. Jerry Fouch

Dr. Morse introduced Mr. Jerry Fouch, Athletic Director. Mr. Fouch gave an overview of the Athletic Program; the Title IX Suit; the MHSAA Protocol for Transfer and Schools of Choice students coming into EGRPS; a Parent/Coach Communication brochure; a Coaches Code of Conduct; and finally, the 2005-2006 O.K. Conference Tiers.

Strategic Plan Update – Progress Report on the Diversity Plan (Superintendent's Goal #2) – Mrs. Jeanne Glowicki

Mrs. Glowicki gave an overview of the Diversity Plan.

First Reading of Revised Policy #7005 (District Mission and Vision Statement) –(Enclosure #9)

The policy was revised to reflect the mission and vision statements from our 2004-2008 Strategic Plan.

First Reading of Revised Policy #7010 (District Beliefs) –(Enclosure #10)

This policy was revised to reflect the district beliefs from our 2004-2008 Strategic Plan.

First Reading of Revised Policy #8395 (Expulsion Procedures) –(Enclosure #11)

This policy was revised to meet the requirements of the law, which states that we cannot put names of students in minutes.

First Reading of New Policy #5185 (Social Security Number Confidentiality) –(Enclosure #12)

Following state mandated law, social security numbers cannot be used for identification and this policy points out how and when we can use a social security number and how and when we can ask for a number for both staff and students.

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Acknowledgement of Revised Rules and Regulations #7630-R (Graduation Requirements) - (Enclosure #13)

The revision made to these rules makes it mandatory for students to take the Michigan Merit Exam. Following Board discussion this rule will be brought back to the policy committee for further review and then will be brought to the Board for review.

Acknowledgement of Revised Rules and Regulations #7650-R (Assessment Program) - (Enclosure #14)

This rule shows the form which will be used for reporting of the community service hours for the Michigan Merit Award. At the suggestion of the Board, the Guidance Office will be asked to add a column for dates of service. This new requirement will need to be communicated to both parents and students.

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 considered 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 items in the Consent Agenda Numbers 15 through 16.

Approval of Minutes of REGULAR MEETING of 5/9/05 (Enclosure #15)

Approval of Minutes of SPECIAL MEETING of 5/17/05 (Enclosure #16)

Mrs. Stein moved to approve Consent Agenda Items #15, and #16. Mr. Denton seconded the motion. The motion passed 7-0.

Other Action Items:

Approval of Health Insurance Resolution (Enclosure #17)

Background: East Grand Rapids Public Schools has been working with a number of school districts in West Michigan to form the first self-funded pool for school employees in the State of Michigan. The Board is asked to give the Administration the authority to move forward when the State approves the program.

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Recommendation: Motion to approve the attached resolution authorizing East Grand Rapids Public Schools membership in the West Michigan Health Insurance Pool (WMHIP).

Mr. Denton moved to approve the health insurance resolution as presented in Enclosure #17. Mr. Camp seconded the motion. Motion passed 7-0.

Approval of KISD Budget for 2005-06 (Enclosure #18)

Background: The State of Michigan now requires that local school boards review their ISD's proposed budget and act in support or non-support of the budget. The Finance Committee has discussed the KISD budget and recommends support.

Recommendation: Motion to support the KISD budget as presented.

Mrs. Kuras moved to support the KISD Budget for 2005-06 as presented in Enclosure #18. Mrs. Trierweiler seconded the motion. Motion passed 7-0.

Approval of Middle School Locker Bid (Enclosure #19)

Background: Request for proposals were sent to vendors to replace student hallway lockers at the Middle School. The Finance Committee has reviewed the bids.

Recommendation: Motion to award a contract to Brainaird Enterprises in the amount of \$54,990.00 out of the Sinking Fund to replace Middle School lockers.

Mr. Camp moved to approve the Middle School Locker Bid as presented in Enclosure #19. Mrs. Stein seconded the motion. Motion passed 7-0.

Approval of Student Management Software (Enclosure #20)

Background: In an effort to upgrade and maintain our student management software systems, request for proposals were sent to vendors. The Finance Committee has reviewed the bids.

Recommendation: Motion to award a contract to Skyward in the amount of \$47,357.00 for student management technology software and training.

Mrs. Trierweiler moved to approve the Student Management Software Bid as presented in Enclosure #20. Mrs. Kuras seconded the motion. Motion passed 7-0.

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Resolution Designating District Election Representative for KISD Election (Enclosure #21)

Background: At the April 25th meeting one member was nominated to be an election representative at the KISD biennial election with one alternate.

Recommendation: Motion to approve a resolution to have Mr. Brian Ellis represent EGRPS at the KISD Biennial Election on June 6th with Mrs. Trierweiler as the alternate and to have them vote for Mrs. Haidle and Mrs. Bajema.

Mr. Denton moved to approve the Resolution Designating Mr. Brian Ellis as the District Election Representative and Mrs. Stacy Trierweiler as the alternate for the KISD Election and to instruct them to vote for Mrs. Haidle and Mrs. Bajema to fill the two open seats on the KISD Board as presented in Enclosure #21. Mrs. Stein seconded the motion. Motion passed 7-0.

Second Reading and Approval of Revised Policies (Enclosure #22)

Background: The first reading of revised policies #7650, #7655 and #5430 was on the May 9, 2005 agenda.

Recommendation: Approval of the updated policies as recommended by the Policy Committee and the Superintendent.

Mrs. Stein moved to approve the updated policies as presented in Enclosure #22. Mrs. Trierweiler seconded the motion. Motion passed 7-0.

Administrative Reports

Superintendent

Proposed Superintendent's Goals for 2005-06 (Enclosure #23A)

Dr. Morse gave a review of the five proposed goals for 2005-06. This will be voted on at the July 1, 2005 Organizational Board meeting.

Grassroots Update/Statewide Rally

Dr. Morse stated he hopes to have Board members attend the rally as well as staff, support staff, administrators, students and parents. The goal is to get 150 people from East Grand Rapids Public Schools to attend. He mentioned that the Superintendents in Kent County have committed to bringing 5,000 people to the rally.

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Assistant Superintendent for Business

Budget Update

The Revenue Consensus Conference took place last week. Mr. Derks passed out information giving a synopsis of the conference.

Board Representative Report

Legislative Committee - Charlie Denton

Mr. Denton made a motion to pass the resolution supporting Senate Bill 246/HB 4582 and send this resolution to the Governor, Senator Sikkema and Representative Hildenbrand. He then gave a brief overview of the proposed bills in the resolution. Mrs. Stein seconded the motion. Motion passed 7-0.

Mrs. Trierweiler mentioned that Lakeside had hundreds of volunteers over the weekend doing plantings and clean up. It looks wonderful.

Mr. Ellis showed a mailing he received from the MASB - Building Blocks of High Performing Schools - which our schools are already doing.

Mrs. Lent reminded everyone that the next meeting would be at 5:00 p.m. on June 6th for our Budget Hearing.

Adjournment

Mrs. Lent adjourned the meeting at 9:41 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.