

EAST GRAND RAPIDS PUBLIC SCHOOLS
Kent County, Michigan

REGULAR Meeting of the East Grand Rapids Board of Education
Woodcliff Center, 2915 Hall St., SE., East Grand Rapids, MI 49506

Phone 616-235-3535

Our Mission

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

Monday, August 29, 2005

7:00 p.m. - REGULAR MEETING

MINUTES

The REGULAR MEETING of the East Grand Rapids Public Schools Board of Education, Kent County, Michigan, was held on Monday, August 29, 2005 in the Community Board Room, Woodcliff Center, 2915 Hall Street SE, East Grand Rapids, MI 49506.

Board of Education:

Present: Mrs. Beth Lent, Mr. Joe Camp, Mrs. Stacy Trierweiler, Mr. Charlie Denton, Mrs. Diane Bok, Mr. Brian Ellis, and Mrs. Julie Ridenour

Administration: Dr. James Morse, Ms. Jeanne Glowicki, Mr. Doug Derks, Mr. Doug Jenkins, Mrs. Kathy Wisniewski, Mr. Larry Fisher, Mr. Kris Vydareny, Mr. Jerry Fouch, Mrs. Jenny Fee, Mr. Peter Stuursma, Mrs. Linda Kehm, and Mr. Pat Cwayna

Meeting Called to Order

Mrs. Lent called the meeting to order at 7:01 p.m.

Acknowledgment of Guests

There were no guests to be acknowledged.

REGULAR BOARD MEETING

August 29, 2005

Page 2

Public Comments

There were no public comments. However, Mrs. Lent took this opportunity to recognize Dr. Morse and the start of his 25th year as Superintendent of East Grand Rapids Public Schools.

Communications to and from the Board

The Board received a thank you card from Jackie Burdick (Reading Specialist at Breton Downs) for the gift certificate; a thank you card from Chris LaMange (Physical Education teacher at the Middle School) for the gift certificate following the birth of his twins; and a thank you card from Marti Chardon (Third grade teacher at Breton Downs) for the book in memory of her father-in-law.

Presentation/Discussion:

Student Laptop Program – Mr. Doug Jenkins

Dr. Morse introduced Mr. Jenkins who presented the results of the student laptop survey. The survey was sent to parents in the high school and middle school earlier this summer. The survey looked at computer usage in the home and school and also attempted to gauge interest in purchasing computers through the school to be used by students both at home and school. Results were overall very positive. The recommendation would be that 8th grade would be the best start group for this program. Mr. Jenkins is looking at getting together a committee of parents and teachers for a meeting by October 1st to draft a plan for this program and bring an update to the Board by November 28th.

Competitive Dance Team – Mr. Jerry Fouch (Enclosure #6)

Dr. Morse introduced Mr. Fouch who gave a background of the competitive dance team. Currently there are 16 girls on the team and others are interested in trying out for a spot. The Board will vote on approval of this becoming a club sport at the next regular meeting in September.

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.

REGULAR BOARD MEETING

August 29, 2005

Page 3

Recommendation: Motion to approve items in the Consent Agenda Numbers 7 through 10

Approval of Minutes of Organizational Meeting of 7/01/05 (Enclosure #7)

Approval of Payment of Bills for June and July (Enclosure #8)

Approval of Overnight Student Activities

In accordance with Board of Education Policy #7490, the district has various trips and overnight athletic and student activities as outlined in Enclosure #9 for approval by the Board. (Enclosure #9)

Second Reading and Approval of Revised Board Policy #8390 – Suspension Procedures
(Enclosure #10)

The Board had a first reading of revised Board Policy #8390 – Suspension Procedures, at the Organizational meeting on July 1, 2005.

Mr. Camp moved to approve Consent Agenda Items #7-10. Mrs. Trierweiler seconded the motion. Motion passed 7-0.

Other Action Items:

Appoint Delegate Representatives to MASB Fall Conference Delegate Assembly

The Michigan Association of School Boards' 2005 Delegate Assembly is meeting at the annual 2005 Fall Conference at the Lansing Center in Lansing on Thursday, October 27, 2005. Three delegates may be appointed to represent the East Grand Rapids Board of Education. (Enclosure #11)

This motion was tabled until the September regular meeting.

Approval of 2005-06 School Lunch Prices (Enclosure #12)

The Food Service Department has recommended a ten-cent (\$.10) increase in K-12 lunch prices for the 2005-06 school year.

Mrs. Bok moved to approve the Finance Committee and Administration recommendation for a ten-cent increase in 2005-06 school lunch prices. Mrs. Ridenour seconded the motion. Motion passed 7-0.

REGULAR BOARD MEETING

August 29, 2005

Page 4

Administrative Reports:

Superintendent

Opening of School

Dr. Morse reported that we had a wonderful opening day for staff today and he thanked Ms. Glowicki and her team for the wonderful job. Mary Billman received the Nicholas Plastics/Vi-Chem award for Science, Mathematics and Technology. The Excellence in Teaching Award was given to Sandi Olson for the elementary and Shelly Schram for secondary. Scott Nauta was voted the Support Staff Person of the Year.

Dr. Morse stated that the enrollment numbers look very good for this year. He also introduced the four new administrators: Mr. Kris Vydareny (Breton Downs Principal), Mrs. Jenny Fee (High School Assistant Principal), Mr. Peter Stuursma (Middle School Principal), Mr. Larry Fisher (Director of Guidance). He also announced that Mr. Doug Jenkins title has been changed (Director of Technology and Assessment). We are looking forward to another wonderful year in East Grand Rapids Public Schools.

New Staff (Enclosure #13B)

We have hired 19 new staff members for this school year. They are all outstanding.

Assistant Supt. for Business

State Aid Update

Mr. Derks announced that school starts tomorrow and there is no State Aid Act yet. We are still waiting to hear the finalized version. He mentioned that it is good that there is dialogue in Lansing regarding the retirement system and health care plans. We will begin gathering signatures for the K-16 Coalition which is asking for a modest inflationary increase for the student foundation grant as well as other items.

Summer Projects

Summer projects have been completed and everything looks great. We are working jointly with the city on the Wealthy tennis courts and hope to have them completed within the next couple of weeks. Two vans were purchased as well as one truck for our fleet. He thanked Patty Temple, Ed Visockis, and Bill Kerr for all of their work over the summer as well as throughout the school year.

Assistant Supt. for Instruction

REGULAR BOARD MEETING

August 29, 2005

Page 5

New Teacher Orientation

Ms. Glowicki stated that orientation had a new component this year. Each and every administrator came in to speak with the new teachers about different aspects of East Grand Rapids Public Schools. The new staff was very appreciative of this orientation.

Diversity Rally

August 19th all administrators attended the countywide Diversity Rally at Northview High School. It was an excellent experience and schools countywide appear to be committed to diversity .in the county

Curriculum Plan Update

Ms. Glowicki passed out an information sheet on the various Instruction/Curriculum Projects for 2005-2006.

Board Representative Report (Enclosure #16)

Board Committee Assignments – Mrs. Lent

Mrs. Lent thanked Board members for being willing to serve on various committees.

EGR Schools Foundation – Mr. Ellis

Mr. Ellis reported on the new Strategic Plan, which was adopted by the Foundation this month.

Adjournment

Mrs. Lent adjourned the meeting at 8:10 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Stacy L. Trierweiler, 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.

REGULAR BOARD MEETING

August 29, 2005

Page 6

** 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 - 08/30/05