



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 23, 2006 7:00 p.m.

MINUTES

The REGULAR MEETING of the East Grand Rapids Public Schools Board of Education, Kent County, Michigan, was held on Monday, January 23, 2006 in the Community Board Room, Woodcliff Center, 2915 Hall Street SE, East Grand Rapids, MI 49506.

Board of Education:

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

Administration: Dr. James Morse, Mrs. Jeanne Glowicki, Mr. Doug Derks, Mr. Doug Jenkins, Mrs. Kathy Wisniewski, Mr. Kris Vydareny, Mr. Mark Tompkins, Mrs. Linda Kehm, and Mrs. Jenny Fee

Meeting Called to Order

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

Acknowledgment of Guests - None

Public Comments - None

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Communications to and from the Board

On February 1st the "We the People" will give a presentation in the Performing Arts Center. There will be a Special Board of Education meeting at 5:30 p.m. on January 30, 2006.

High School Student Council President's Report - Mr. John Abraham

The annual blood drive will be on Thursday, January 29th - everyone is welcome to give blood. The food drive very successful, in fact, it was the best drive in the last three years. There was enough food to be able to donate food to other organizations. The Student Council is looking into becoming part of the Greater Student Council Association - they will be checking this association out to see if they want to join. John announced he has been accepted at Harvard and will be attending there next year.

EGREA President's Report - Mrs. Nancy McSkimming

Mrs. McSkimming said it is hard to believe the first semester is already over. Teachers are looking forward to second semester. She announced that Paul Kline was named as orchestra director of the year for the state of Michigan, congratulations to him.

Recognition of:

East Grand Rapids Board of Education Members for School Board Recognition Month January 2006 - Dr. Morse (Enclosure #7A)

Dr. Morse thanked the Board for all of their work. He explained that this Board is all volunteers; they do not get paid for any of their work. He also thanked Beth Lent for her leadership. Mr. Cwayna thanked the Board members for setting the example of leadership for the entire staff.

Recognition of Principal's Week - February 12-18, 2006 - Dr. James Morse (Enclosure #7B)

Mr. Camp moved to recognize February 12-18, 2006 as Principal's Week. Mrs. Bok seconded the motion. Motion passed 7-0.

Discussion Items:

Kent ISD Presentation - Accountability II

Mr. Ron Koehler from the Kent Intermediate School District (KISD) handed out a brochure and reviewed the services the ISD has provided to EGRPS over the last year. He also gave a brief report of what services the KISD provides countywide.

Food Service Update - Mrs. Amy Larson and Mr. Erik Neering (Enclosure #9)

Mr. Derks introduced Erik Neering and Amy Larson who presented the update to the Board. They reviewed the accomplishments in 2004-05 and for this year. It was a very positive update. The Food Service program had a balanced budget for 2004-05 and the 2005-06 budget is projected to be balanced.

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Diversity Curriculum Committee Update - Mrs. Jeanne Glowicki

Mrs. Glowicki gave an overview of this committee and reviewed the goals of the committee.

Recommendation of Timeline and Numbers for 2006-07 Choice Program

We will present a timeline and projected choice numbers with a request for Board approval at the February 27, 2006 regular meeting. (Enclosure #11)

Dr. Morse reviewed the timeline and the recommended numbers. The numbers will be approved at the February 27th meeting. Changes may be made between now and then depending on the information from the buildings on enrollment. There was discussion by the Board. The final recommendation will be brought back to the Board for approval at the February 27, 2006 meeting.

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 12 through 15.

Approval of Minutes of REGULAR MEETING of 12/12/05 Enclosure #12)

Approval of Minutes of SPECIAL MEETING on 1/16/06 (Enclosure #13)

Approval of Payment of Bills for December 2005. (Enclosure #14)

Amendment to Administrators' Tax Sheltered Annuity Plan

Mrs. Trierweiler moved to approve Consent Agenda Items #12-15. Mrs. Ridenour seconded the motion. Motion passed 7-0.

Other Action Items:

Approval of Early Retirement Incentive (Enclosure #16)

The Teachers' Association has requested a retirement incentive this year. The Finance Committee and Administration are recommending a retirement incentive for the 2005-06 school year.

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Mr. Camp moved to approve the Retirement Program as presented in Enclosure #16 upon the recommendation of the Superintendent. Mrs. Trierweiler seconded the motion. Motion passed 7-0.

Approval of the Schools of Choice Resolutions for 2006-2007

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 Opt Out of Section 105 State of Michigan Choice Plan (Enclosure #17A)

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.

Mr. Denton moved 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 2006-2007 school year, for the purpose of participating in an intermediate school district-wide schools of choice program. Mr. Ellis seconded the motion. Motion passed 7-0.

Approval of a Resolution to Opt Out of Section 105c of the State 2006-07 Schools of Choice Plan (Enclosure #17B)

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 2006-07 school year.

Mrs. Bok moved to pass a resolution to opt out of Section 105c as recommended by the Superintendent. Mrs. Ridenour seconded the motion. Motion passed 7-0.

Approval of a Resolution to Participate in the 2006-07 Kent Intermediate School District Collaborative Schools of Choice Program (Enclosure #17C)

This is the fifth year of the new Choice Program.

Mr. Denton moved to pass a resolution to participate in the Kent ISD Collaborative Schools of Choice Program for the 2006-07 school year as recommended by the Superintendent. Mr. Ellis seconded the motion. Motion passed 7-0.

Administrative Reports

Superintendent

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Dr. Morse reported that the EGR High School orchestra played at DeVos Center this past weekend and did very well. Congratulations to Mr. Paul Kline who was named orchestra director of the year in the state of Michigan.

Assistant Supt. of Business

No report.

Assistant Supt. of Instruction

Staff Development Progress

Mrs. Glowicki stated that staff development is progressing very well.

Social Studies Curriculum Committee Launch

Mrs. Glowicki indicated that this will be a challenging committee and everyone involved is excited to begin.

MLPP To Go

MLPP stands for Michigan Literacy Progress Profile. This tool will help teachers with assessments and is linked with our data warehouse.

Board Representative Report

Community Action Council - Mrs. Beth Lent

Mrs. Lent updated the Board on the good parent turnout for the recent parent forum. The Community Action Council will be putting together a Middle School parent forum for this spring.

Adjournment

Mrs. Lent adjourned the meeting at 8:13 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Stacy L. Trierweiler, Secretary
East Grand Rapids Board of Education

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* 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 - 01/24/06