
EAST GRAND RAPIDS PUBLIC SCHOOLS
2915 Hall Street SE
East Grand Rapids, MI 49506

James E. Morse, Ed.D.
Superintendent

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SPECIAL 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. Phone 616-235-3535.

Thursday, June 1, 2006

3:00 p.m.

MINUTES

The SPECIAL MEETING of the East Grand Rapids Public Schools Board of Education, Kent County, Michigan, was held on Thursday, June 1, 2006 in the Community Board Room, James E. Morse Administration Center at Woodcliff, 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, Mr. Brian Ellis, and Mrs. Julie Ridenour

Meeting Called to Order

Mrs. Lent called the meeting to order at 3:03 p.m.

Public Comment - None

Initial Interviews of Superintendent Candidates

Paul J. Kadri

Paul J. Kadri, currently the Superintendent of Moorestown Township Public Schools in Moorestown, NJ, was introduced to the Board.

Mrs. Lent welcomed Mr. Kadri and described the format for the interview. Questions from the audience will be included at the end of the session, if time permits. The task of choosing the Superintendent is the responsibility of the Board as representatives of the community. The Board appreciates and seeks input from staff and community members during this process. While the Board is not seeking recommendations as to which individual should be hired, input is sought on the strengths and concerns for each candidate. The Board is prohibited by law from considering the race, religion, color, national origin, age, gender, height, weight, marital status, or disability of a candidate as a basis for hiring decisions.

Mr. Kadri then responded to questions from the Board under the following topic areas: Community Relations/Communications; Organizational Culture; Leadership Attributes;

Instruction and Curriculum; Finance; Staff and Personnel and Board and Superintendent Relationships.

Mr. Kadri then responded to questions from the audience in the following areas: speaking to elementary students on opening day and interfacing with the Education Association.

Mr. Kadri asked the Board to respond to questions related to the Superintendent living in the district and their visibility in the community.

Mr. Kadri gave his closing statement. Mrs. Lent thanked Mr. Kadri for his interest in the position. The Board is having initial interviews with a total of six candidates and second interviews are scheduled for June 6th, 7th, and 8th. Candidates will be contacted if they have been selected as a candidate for a second interview.

The Board recessed at 4:38 p.m.

The Board reconvened at 5:03 p.m.

Kevin M. Hollenbeck, Ph.D.

Kevin M. Hollenbeck, currently a Senior Economist with the W.E. Upjohn Institute in Kalamazoo, MI, was introduced to the Board.

Mrs. Lent welcomed Dr. Hollenbeck and described the format for the interview. Questions from the audience will be included at the end of the session, if time permits. The task of choosing the Superintendent is the responsibility of the Board as representatives of the community. The Board appreciates and seeks input from staff and community members during this process. While the Board is not seeking recommendations as to which individual should be hired, input is sought on the strengths and concerns for each candidate. The Board is prohibited by law from considering the race, religion, color, national origin, age, gender, height, weight, marital status, or disability of a candidate as a basis for hiring decisions.

Dr. Hollenbeck then responded to questions from the Board under the following topic areas: Community Relations/Communications; Organizational Culture; Leadership Attributes; Instruction and Curriculum; Finance; Staff and Personnel and Board and Superintendent Relationships.

Dr. Hollenbeck then responded to questions from the audience in the following areas: how would the President of the W.E. Upjohn Institute describe you and speaking to elementary students on opening day.

Dr. Hollenbeck asked the Board to respond to questions related to how the Board works and how the district sets its goals.

Dr. Hollenbeck gave his closing statement. Mrs. Lent thanked Dr. Hollenbeck for his interest in the position. The Board is having initial interviews with a total of six candidates and second interviews are scheduled for June 6th, 7th, and 8th. Candidates will be contacted if they have been selected as a candidate for a second interview.

The Board recessed at 6:30 p.m.

The Board reconvened at 7:02 p.m.

David F. Larson, Ed.D.

David F. Larson, Ed.D., currently the Superintendent at Harbor Springs Public Schools in Harbor Springs, MI, was introduced to the Board.

Mrs. Lent welcomed Dr. Larson and described the format for the interview. Questions from the audience will be included at the end of the session, if time permits. The task of choosing the Superintendent is the responsibility of the Board as representatives of the community. The Board appreciates and seeks input from staff and community members during this process. While the Board is not seeking recommendations as to which individual should be hired, input is sought on the strengths and concerns for each candidate. The Board is prohibited by law from considering the race, religion, color, national origin, age, gender, height, weight, marital status, or disability of a candidate as a basis for hiring decisions.

Dr. Larson then responded to questions from the Board under the following topic areas: Community Relations/Communications; Organizational Culture; Leadership Attributes; Instruction and Curriculum; Finance; Staff and Personnel and Board and Superintendent Relationships.

Dr. Larson then responded to questions from the audience in the following areas: speaking to elementary students on opening day; his relationship with the President of the Harbor Springs Education Association.

Dr. Larson asked the Board to respond to questions relating to the openness of the school community and the overall community to a new leader, what are Board members most proud of regarding the District, and key challenges over the next two or three years.

Dr. Larson gave his closing statement. Mrs. Lent thanked Dr. Larson for his interest in the position. The Board is having initial interviews with a total of six candidates and second interviews are scheduled for June 6th, 7th, and 8th. Candidates will be contacted if they have been selected as a candidate for a second interview.

Adjournment

Mrs. Lent adjourned the meeting at 8:25 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 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. James Morse at 235-3535.
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