

EAST GRAND RAPIDS PUBLIC SCHOOLS
Kent County, Michigan

*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,
The James E. Morse Administration Center at Woodcliff
2915 Hall SE, East Grand Rapids, MI 49506
Phone 616-235-3535

Monday, September 25, 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, September 25, 2006 in the Community Board Room of the James E. Morse Administration Center at Woodcliff, 2915 Hall Street SE, East Grand Rapids, MI 49506.

Board of Education:

Present: Mr. Charlie Denton, Mrs. Diane Bok, Mrs. Stacy Trierweiler, Mrs. Beth Lent, Mrs. Julie Ridenour, and Mr. Steve Edison

Administration: Dr. Sara Shubel, Mr. Kevin Philipps, Mrs. Jeanne Glowicki, Mr. Pat Cwayna, Mrs. Jenny Fee, Mr. Larry Fisher, Mrs. Jann VanAirsdale, Mrs. Kathy Wisniewski, Mr. Kris Vydareny, Mr. Mark Tompkins, Mrs. Linda Kehm, and Mr. Peter Stuursma

Absent: Mr. Joe Camp

Meeting Called to Order

Mr. Denton called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. Mr. Denton stated that Mr. Camp would not be in attendance. He noted the Addendum to the meeting, #17A.

Acknowledgment of Guests - None

Public Comments - None

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Recognition of Student Semifinalists in the 2006 Merit Scholarship Competition - Mr. Fisher

East Grand Rapids High School has 3 semi-finalists in the National Merit Scholarship competition. Dr. Shubel and Mrs. Trierweiler presented certificates to the National Merit Semifinalists for 2006.

Board Secretary's Report - Communications to and from the Board - Mrs. Trierweiler

Mrs. Trierweiler reported that a thank you card was received from Doug Fryling (Middle School Head Custodian) for the book in memory of his father-in-law, and thank you cards were received from Adam Brush (High School Math) for the Schuler's gift card following the birth of his son, and Amy Larson (High School Food Service) for the Schuler's gift card following the birth of her son.

High School Student Council President's Report - Mr. Nathan Stevens

Mr. Stevens was absent. Kelly Lundquist, Vice President of Student Council filled in for him. She reported that Student Council is working on Homecoming and Spirit Week.

EGREA President's Report - Mrs. Nancy McSkimming

Mrs. McSkimming stated that school has started out well. Teachers are looking forward to working on curriculum throughout the year.

Presentation/Discussion:

Facilities Update - Mr. Camp/Mr. Phillips

Mr. Phillips stated that design development drawings would go out to the Board soon. Currently the District is on track for approval of the drawings at the October Board meeting. Bid packages for Breton Downs and Lakeside will go out the first of the year. The District is looking to hire a Construction Manager and may have a recommendation by October.

Youth Development - Mr. Dave Kampfschulte

Mr. Kampfschulte gave a brief background of Senior Retreat and presented a slide show of the retreat for this year. Mrs. Kathy Sunshine also commented on her experience this year and one of the senior class members stated it was the best time he ever had. He felt he was able to make new friends and strengthen old friendships. Mr. Kampfschulte thanked Mr. Cwayna and the Foundation for their support. He also talked about Healthy High which was held this past weekend and which also was a great success. He presented a Healthy High tee shirt to Dr. Shubel.

Proposed Technology Plan (Superintendent Goal #3) - Mr. Jenkins

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Mr. Jenkins gave a brief power point presentation and talked about the goals of the technology plan. He presented a planning budget for the bond money and gave an overview of where some of the money has been spent and looked at where future money will go. He stated that the technology curriculum would be updated and brought before the Board for approval in April.

Acknowledgement of Revised Policy Rules #8335-R (Unlawful Substances and Other Criminal Acts) - (Enclosure #11)

Mrs. Bok reviewed the rule change and the reasons for the change.

First Reading of Revised Policy #2070 and Acknowledgement of Revised Policy Rules #2070-R (School Superintendent) - (Enclosure #12)

Mrs. Bok stated that in the process of our Superintendent Search, there were discrepancies between the policy and the rules. The policy was suspended during the search and has since been revised by the Policy Committee and is brought to the Board for a first reading at this meeting. This policy will be brought back to the Board for a second reading and approval at the October 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 items in the Consent Agenda Numbers 13 through 15.

Approval of Minutes of REGULAR MEETING of 8/28/06 (Enclosure #13)

Approval of Minutes of SPECIAL MEETING of 8/30/06 (Enclosure #14)

Approval of Payment of Bills for August 2006 (Enclosure #15)

Mr. Edison moved to approve Consent Agenda Items #13-15. Mrs. Trierweiler seconded the motion. Motion passed 6-0.

Other Action Items:

Approval of a PAC and PASE Committee Members (Enclosure #16)

Mrs. Jann VanAirsdale, Special Education Director, is recommending Mrs. Carol Lippert and Mrs. Stacy Trierweiler to represent the East Grand Rapids parents on the Region II Parent Advisory Committee (PAC) and the Kent Intermediate School District Parent Advisors (PASE). Mrs. Lippert's term will be 2006-2009 and Mrs. Trierweiler's term will be 2006-2008.

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Mrs. Bok moved to approve Mrs. Carol Lippert for the term 2006-2009 and Mrs. Stacy Trierweiler for the term 2006-2008 as the PAC/PASE Representatives from East Grand Rapids. Mrs. Ridenour seconded the motion. Mrs. Trierweiler abstained from voting, as she is a nominee. Motion passed 5-0.

Approval of Resolution in Support of Proposal 5 (Enclosure #17)

Proposal 5 is the name of the K-16 Coalition ballot initiative. Backers of the proposal are asking school boards across Michigan to approve a resolution supporting Proposal 5 for the November 7, 2006 election.

Mrs. Lent moved to approve a resolution in support of Proposal 5. Mrs. Bok seconded the motion. Mr. Denton stated that the Legislative Committee reviewed and recommended support of Proposal 5. Mr. Philipps gave a brief power point presentation of the Proposal. Mr. Denton opened the floor to Mayor Bartman (who was not able to attend earlier) to express the views of the City on this resolution. There was further discussion by the Board. Motion passed 5-1, with Mr. Edison voting "no".

Approval of Superintendent Interim Relocation Expenses Extension

In hiring Dr. Shubel, reasonable relocation expenses including interim housing were provided for a period of 60 days. The Personnel Committee has reviewed the Superintendent's relocation and circumstances, and recommends extension of this commitment as to reasonable interim housing rental expense reimbursement for an additional four (4) months (through January 31, 2007).

Mr. Edison moved to approve extension of the Superintendent's reasonable interim housing expense reimbursement through January 31, 2007. Mrs. Bok seconded the motion. Motion passed 6-0.

Administrative Reports:

Superintendent

Board/Administrator Work Session Follow-up

Dr. Shubel reviewed feedback from the Workshop. Overall it was a very good meeting and the Administrators and Board were able to come together and share information.

ASCD Conference Report - Washington, D.C. (September 16-19, 2006)

Dr. Shubel was in Washington, D.C. last week and reported on her meetings with Legislators and their education advisors and attendance at workshops.

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Other Items:

Dr. Shubel reported that Standard and Poors put out a report today stating East Grand Rapids is an outstanding school.

Dr. Shubel acknowledged the death of Gerri Mears and her contribution to the schools. Dr. Shubel also congratulated Mr. Denton on his appointment as Environmental Litigation Co-Chair for the American Bar Association (ABA).

Assistant Supt. for Instruction

Constitution Day (September 17) Report.

Mrs. Glowicki reviewed for the Board the various programs held in all of the schools in recognition of Constitution Day.

Curriculum, Instruction, Assessment & Technology Coordination

Mrs. Glowicki distributed information showing staff participation and staff development opportunities. She also distributed a calendar showing the various meetings of instruction, assessment and technology. Another item distributed was a calendar showing instruction and curriculum meetings for 2006-2007.

Projected Curriculum/Technology Assessment Updates to the Board in 2006-2007

Mrs. Glowicki reviewed the list of dates for curriculum presentations to the Board for 2006-2007.

Upcoming Events

Mrs. Glowicki discussed the upcoming Families of Color Connection Group meeting, the Diversity Lecture Series from Grand Rapids Community College, and the updated G/T brochure.

Assistant Supt. for Business

Financial Update - State Aid

Mr. Philipps reported on three items of interest: schools must begin posting budgets on district websites beginning October 1st, professional development hours will be reduced from 51 to 38 (which will impact us during the next bargaining session), and he gave a review of various budgeted expenses that were shifted from the State General Fund to the School Aid Fund.

Board Representatives Reports

Legislative Liaison Report – Mrs. Trierweiler

Mrs. Trierweiler stated that proposal 5 was discussed and is supported by the Legislative Committee. She also asked Board members to reserve the following dates: December 11, 2006 for a coffee with a legislator and February 12, 2007 the Legislative Committee hopes to have Vern Ehlers return for coffee.

Policy Committee Update – Mrs. Bok

The committee is working on policies to be reviewed and also new policies to be added due to changes from state legislation. She stated that a poster on the negative impact and use of steroids would be posted in all locker rooms, as required. Policies will come to the Board for approval.

G/T Connection Update – Mr. Edison

Mr. Edison reported on the work of the committee and also reviewed a few of the highlights in the program.

Community Action Council (CAC) – Mr. Edison

Mr. Edison stated that the CAC met last week and the group feels energized to be of value to the District. They will be looking to put together a multi-year plan of accomplishments and feel there is still much to be accomplished. The group will also be putting together a strategic plan with Sister Carmelita Murphy providing guidance and they will also send a survey to students, staff, parents and community members.

KIASB Dinner – Mrs. Lent

Mrs. Lent reviewed for the Board the dinner presentation put on by Grand Valley State University.

EGR Schools Foundation Liaison Report – Mrs. Lent

Mrs. Lent stated we all know how much the Foundation Board gives back to schools. She reminded the Board that on October 10, 2006 is the Kids Night of the Stars fundraiser and the Distinguished Alumni Dinner will be held on November 7, 2006. She asked Board members to put these dates on their calendars.

Mr. Denton stated that on October 18, 2006 the Board would hold a special work session beginning at 7:00 p.m. to discuss the former Proposal 3. This was the athletic facilities proposal which was not approved by the voters in the May 2006 bond election.

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Adjournment

Mr. Denton adjourned the meeting at 9:00 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.
- ** If you plan to attend and have a special need and require accommodation to attend this meeting, please contact Dr. Sara M. Shubel, Superintendent, at 235-3535.

Superintendent's Office - 10/12/06