

***Our Mission***

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

**REGULAR Meeting of the East Grand Rapids Board of Education**

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

**Monday, October 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, October 23, 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, Mr. Joe Camp, 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

**Meeting Called to Order**

Mr. Denton called the meeting to order at 7:01 p.m.

**Acknowledgment of Guests** - None

**Public Comments** - None

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

No communications this month.

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

## REGULAR BOARD MEETING

October 23, 2006

Page 2

Mr. Stevens stated that homecoming week went well and was a busy time. Upcoming projects are the Cystic Fibrosis penny drive, where each class will match what is raised and also the upcoming Arts and Crafts Show. The Student Council will be discussing what can be done in memory of Brittany Booth and Vincent Szpieg.

### EGREA President's Report - Mrs. Nancy McSkimming

Mrs. McSkimming was not able to attend the meeting and asked Dr. Shubel to present the following report for her. Teachers are looking forward to meeting with parents on a one-to-one basis at upcoming parent/teacher conferences. Teachers are always appreciative of the outstanding attendance by parents and feel this is an indication of why many of our students experience successes academically.

### Recognition of Six East Grand Rapids Commended Students in the 2007 National Merit Scholarship Competition - Mr. Larry Fisher and Mr. Pat Cwayna

Mr. Fisher introduced the six students and he and Mrs. Bok presented each student with a certificate. Mr. Cwayna thanked the parents of the students and congratulated each student on their achievement.

### Discussion Items:

#### School Safety - Chief Peter Gallagher - East Grand Rapids Public Safety

Chief Gallagher introduced Ryan Holmes, the School Liaison Officer. He then gave an overview of the last 20-plus years of the school and city working together on school safety. He stated that school safety involves all of the staff in the buildings; parents of all the children; the students; and the public safety department of the city. Mr. Cwayna thanked Chief Gallagher for his foresight in this area and his help with being conscious of the safety of all East students. The Board then presented a certificate of appreciation to Chief Gallagher for his 23 years of service to the children and staff of the schools.

Dr. Shubel announced that the Michigan Department of Education has designated November 6-11 as Michigan Safe Schools Week.

#### Facilities Update - Mr. Camp

Mr. Camp reported on the design phase of the bond project. URS is currently wrapping up the design development phase and OAK is looking to reconcile the costs on the design development budget.

Mr. Denton announced that a Special Board Meeting has been scheduled for Thursday, November 16, 2006 at 5:30 p.m. to review and approve the design drawings.

Bond Timeline and Implementation - Mr. Philipps

Mr. Philipps reviewed the bond timeline and the implementation process. He gave a brief background of the committee work, which was completed once the bond was passed by voters up to the design development phase. He reviewed the dates for completion of the Breton and Lakeside classrooms, which will be this coming year; and also the dates over the next two years for the various work, including air conditioning at Wealthy, the Middle School and the High School.

Energy Education Program Implementation - Mr. Graham

Dr. Shubel introduced Mr. Dan Graham, the District Energy Manager. Mr. Graham gave a power-point presentation which reviewed the energy program; his position as the energy manager; and the current status of our energy program. He will bring updates to the Board throughout the next year.

Special Education Report - Mrs. Van Airsdale and Mrs. Wisniewski (Enclosure #12)

Mrs. Van Airsdale and Mrs. Wisniewski gave a power-point overview of what Special Education looks like in East Grand Rapids; explained professional staffing for our district; and answered Board members' questions.

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 9/25/06 (Enclosure #13)

Approval of Payment of Bills for September 2006 (Enclosure #14)

Second Reading and Approval of Revised Policy #2070 & #2070R (School Superintendent) (Enclosure #15)

Background: The Board had a first reading of revised Policy #2070 and #2070R (School Superintendent) at the Board of Education meeting on September 25, 2006.

REGULAR BOARD MEETING

October 23, 2006

Page 4

Mrs. Trierweiler moved to approve Consent Agenda Items #13-15. Mrs. Lent seconded the motion. Motion passed 7-0.

*Other Action Items:*

Resolution to Designate Voting Member in the West Michigan Risk Management Trust Insurance Pool (Enclosure #16)

Periodically, Arthur J. Gallagher Risk Management Services, Inc. requires that district member representative resolutions be updated.

Mrs. Ridenour moved to approve the resolution to designate Kevin Philipps, Assistant Superintendent of Business as the voting member and Dr. Sara M. Shubel, Superintendent as the alternate in the West Michigan Risk Management Trust Insurance Pool. Mrs. Lent seconded the motion. Motion passed 7-0.

Resolution to Designate Voting Member in the West Michigan Workers Compensation Fund (Enclosure #17)

Periodically, Arthur J. Gallagher Risk Management Services, Inc. requires that district member representative resolutions be updated.

Mr. Camp moved to approve the resolution to designate Kevin Philipps, Assistant Superintendent of Business as the voting member and Dr. Sara M. Shubel, Superintendent as the alternate in the West Michigan Workers Compensation Fund. Mrs. Ridenour seconded the motion. Motion passed 7-0.

Approval of Board of Education/Superintendent Ground Rules (Enclosure #18)

In August the Board and Superintendent met for a workshop. These ground rules were developed during this workshop and have been reviewed with the Superintendent through the Personnel Committee.

Following discussion, there were some changes and additions made to this document. Mrs. Lent moved to approve the Board of Education/Superintendent Ground Rules with changes and additions as discussed as recommended by the Personnel Committee. Mr. Edison seconded the motion. Changes will be made as noted. Motion passed 7-0.

*Administrative Reports:*

Superintendent

Student Count Update

## REGULAR BOARD MEETING

October 23, 2006

Page 5

Mr. Philipps reviewed the most recent student count. He stated that the blended count will be 3012 and the budget for this year was based on a number of 3024.

ASCD trip to India (October 25-November 6, 2006)

Dr. Shubel will be out of the country in India from October 25-November 6, 2006. She will spend her time there visiting schools and seeing how the educational system in India works and what their goals for education would be.

### Assistant Superintendent for Instruction

Y5-12 Math Curriculum Update - To keep the Board up to date, Mrs. Glowicki reviewed the timeline of the committee and minutes from the last meeting.

Families of Color Connection Group - Notes from the kick-off meeting were distributed to the Board. Approximately 28 people attended the first meeting. This group is currently in the process of looking at next steps.

Professional Development Update - Mrs. Glowicki handed out results of the most recent committee meeting showing who is on the committee and also what sessions will be offered during the Professional Development Days in February of 2007.

### Board Representative Reports

Joint Facilities Committee - Mr. Denton reported that the Joint Facilities met on October 18<sup>th</sup>. It was a good meeting between the schools and the city. The Committee is currently looking at recommendations for signs and banners on fences; the Manhattan tennis courts project to be completed in the spring; and a volleyball net system for Wealthy Elementary was also approved for this year. This group meets quarterly.

Legislative Liaison - Mr. Edison stated that this committee met on October 16<sup>th</sup> and included a general discussion on Proposition 5. The committee reviewed the school position and the city position. There will be reauthorization of the NCLB legislation next year and the committee is taking a look at what we need and who to contact with our thoughts. There were also various house bills discussed: Bill No. 4788 regarding tax credit; Bill No. 6448 moving the Kindergarten age from November 30<sup>th</sup> to September 5<sup>th</sup>; and Bill No. 6350 regarding internet safety and technology. He indicated that the Committee felt all of these bills would need further discussion.

Communications and Outreach Special Committee - Mrs. Ridenour said the committee has met three times and is anticipating having a communication assessment done on the district. She indicated that they might be ready with a proposal to come before the Board by next month.

## REGULAR BOARD MEETING

October 23, 2006

Page 6

PASE Report – Mrs. Trierweiler reported that PASE met on October 22<sup>nd</sup> at the KISD. She said the group discussed the review by the State Board on restraints and isolation rooms and that the State Board may make some changes. She also reported that NCLB feels there are too many special education students being diagnosed and they would like earlier reading recovery and math recovery put in place but there has been no indication as to how this would be paid in the state.

Superintendent's Advisory Council (SAC) – Mrs. Trierweiler stated that this was a very lively meeting with many great ideas for topics the committee would like presented and discussed. Some of the ideas focused on curriculum, school funding, and schools of choice.

Mr. Denton announced that the committee to review and give recommendations on follow-up to the peior millage Proposal 3 would be called the Athletic Facilities Assessment Special Committee. Beth Lent will serve as Chairperson, with Board members Steve Edison and Joe Camp also serving. Administrators on the committee will be Pat Cwayna, Scott Robertson, and Kevin Philipps. Bob Horn will represent the City Commission, and Fred Bunn from the City Recreation Department has also agreed to sit on this committee. He is still working on contacting some parents to serve on this committee.

### Adjournment

Mr. Denton adjourned the meeting at 9:43 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, Ph.D. Superintendent, at 235-3535.

Superintendent's Office -10/31/06