

**East Grand Rapids Public Schools
Board of Education
SPECIAL BOARD MEETING
DRAFT – MINUTES - DRAFT**

**January 22, 2007
6:00 p.m.**

A Special Meeting of the Board of Education was held in the Community Board Room of the James E. Morse Administration Center at Woodcliff, 2915 Hall St., SE, East Grand Rapids, Michigan 49506.

Board of Education: Mr. Charles M. Denton, Mrs. Diane Bok, Mrs. Stacy Trierweiler, Mrs. Beth Lent, Mr. Joe Camp, Mrs. Julie Ridenour, and Mr. Steve Edison

Administration: Dr. Sara M. Shubel, Mr. Kevin Philipps, Mrs. Jeanne Glowicki, Mrs. Kathy Wisniewski, Mrs. Jenny Fee, Mr. Mark Tompkins, Mr. Larry Fisher, Mr. Doug Jenkins, and Mr. Kris Vydareny

President Charles M. Denton called the Special Meeting to order at 6:05 p.m.

Public Comments – No comments

Y5-12 Math Curriculum Presentation (Enclosure #2)

Dr. Shubel thanked the Math Curriculum Committee for all of their work over the last year and a half. Mrs. Glowicki introduced the committee members in attendance and also thanked them for their work and dedication to this committee. The Committee reviewed their journey over the last two years to arrive at the new curriculum. Elementary grades will go with Harcourt School Publishers and Think Math! Chapter Companion Guides. The Middle School will go with Holt Rinehart Winston. The High School will continue with the University of Chicago (UCSMP) series. Staff development training on these math programs will begin in February of 2007 and will continue throughout the summer of 2007. The high school will continue to work on curriculum throughout the 2007-2008 school year. The committee will continue to meet to revise report cards, support the staff development plan needs and to celebrate. Mrs. Glowicki reviewed the budgets for each of the grade levels. The Board discussed the presentation and asked questions of the committee. The Board thanked the committee and Mrs. Glowicki for their work and the presentation this evening.

Discussion Michigan Merit Curriculum High School Graduation Requirements (Enclosure #3)

Dr. Shubel introduced Mrs. Fee and Mr. Fisher. Mrs. Fee and Mr. Fisher reviewed the Michigan Merit Curriculum High School Graduation Requirements. These requirements would go into effect in 2011 – meaning our current 8th graders. They also showed a side-by-side comparison of what is currently being done at East Grand Rapids High School and what the state will be requiring. The high school is working hard to give the students the courses they need and also the electives that they want to pursue. There may have to be some policy changes made to align with the Michigan requirements.

Budget Workshop

Dr. Shubel introduced Kevin Philipps, Assistant Superintendent of Business.

Mr. Philipps presented a short history of school finance. He stressed that we need to keep focused on our mission statement. He said the budget is a tool to help us with our Strategic Plan. He listed programs and methods that have been implemented over the last several years to make us more efficient and prepare for hard times. He also reviewed reductions due to limited funding. He then reviewed funding over the last few years. He discussed budget assumptions for 2007-2008. Our student enrollment is estimated to be flat for next year.

Mr. Philipps discussed time frames for when the unknown factors would become known. With what is known at this point in time, and with nothing changing, a budget deficit of approximately \$740,000 is projected. The Budget Committee is in place and has good representation of administrators, teachers and support staff. Mr. Philipps stressed that bond dollars are totally independent of operating funds, the Sinking Funds can only be used for capitol needs and finally the State of Michigan determines the funding we receive for operating.

Mr. Denton thanked Mr. Philipps and gave Board members an opportunity to ask questions or make comments. He reminded everyone that this problem is not unique to East Grand Rapids, but all districts are experiencing difficult times. He said this again would be a challenging time working on the budget and it will not be an easy process.

Mr. Philipps gave an overview of the recent State revenue conference and some projected outcomes as well as some interesting facts about jobs and the recovery of the state's economy.

Performing Arts Center Plaque

Mr. Denton asked Mrs. Ridenour to give a brief report describing the reasons behind a recognition plaque for Mr. Patrick Cwayna, Sr. She stated that wording for the plaque is included in each Board members packet. The Board would like to present Mr. Cwayna with the plaque during his farewell open house on Tuesday, January 23rd. The plaque would be permanently placed in the Performing Arts Center.

Mrs. Ridenour moved to approve the intent of the wording and placement of a plaque in the High School Performing Arts Center recognizing the accomplishments of Mr. Patrick Cwayna. Mrs. Trierweiler seconded the motion. Motion passed 7-0.

Any Other Matters That Come Before the Board

Mrs. Trierweiler announced that she would be running for re-election to the Board of Education in May of this year. Mr. Denton announced that he would not be seeking re-election due to work and personal commitments.

Adjournment

Mr. Denton adjourned the meeting at 8:36 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Stacy Trierweiler, Secretary
East Grand Rapids Board of Education

* Copies of these minutes may be requested from the Superintendent's Office, East Grand Rapids Schools, Woodcliff Center, 2915 Hall SE, East Grand Rapids, MI 49506, or call 616-235-3535.

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