

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, Woodcliff Center,
2915 Hall SE, East Grand Rapids, MI 49506
Phone 616-235-3535.

Monday, April 23, 2007 - 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, April 23, 2007 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, Mr. Joe Camp, Mrs. Julie Ridenour, and Mr. Steve Edison

Administration: Dr. Sara Shubel, Mr. Kevin Philipps, Ms. Jeanne Glowicki, Mrs. Kathy Wisniewski, Mr. Larry Fisher, Mr. Peter Stuursma, Mrs. Jenny Fee, Mrs. Linda Kehm, Mr. Glenn Mitcham, and Mr. Kris Vydareny

Meeting Called to Order

Mr. Denton called the meeting to order at 7:01 p.m. Mr. Denton congratulated Mrs. Fee, Mr. Fisher, Mr. Mitcham, the high school leadership, Mrs. Patty Temple, Mayor Bartman, Chief Herald, Dr. Shubel and everyone in the district who made the President's visit on Friday a successful event. Mrs. Fee thanked Mr. Trent Wadsworth also and shared an e-mail she received from the White House advance team, thanking the district for their cooperation and work in making this visit smooth and uneventful. The email also went on to say that the President was very impressed with the PAC and the school and students.

Acknowledgment of Guests - None

Public Comments - Marjolijn van der Verlde of 802 San Jose expressed her appreciation of the high school administration for keeping the parents informed during the Presidential activities of last week and also for keeping the students involved in the process and the speech.

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Recognition of:

Teacher Appreciation Week – May 6-12, 2007 – Dr. Shubel

The Administration recommends a resolution designating May 6-12, 2007 as *Teacher Appreciation Week*.

Mr. Edison moved to recognize the teachers and to thank them for their work with our children. Mrs. Trierweiler seconded the motion. Motion passed enthusiastically 7-0.

Parent and Volunteer Appreciation Week – April 29 – May 5, 2007 – Dr. Shubel

The Administration recommends a resolution designating April 29 – May 5, 2007 as East Grand Rapids Schools *Parent and Volunteer Appreciation Week* to show appreciation to our students' parents and our volunteers.

Mrs. Rideonour moved to recognize the parents and volunteers who give so much time to our children during Parent and Volunteer Appreciation Week, April 29 – May 5, 2007. Mr. Camp seconded the motion. Motion passed enthusiastically 7-0.

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

Mrs. Trierweiler reported that the Board received a thank you card from Charles DeWildt (Lakeside and Wealthy PE) for the gift certificate to Schuler's following his recent surgery and also a card was received from Ann Impellizzeri (Breton Downs Food Service) for the gift certificate to Schuler's following her surgery.

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

Mr. Stevens was not able to make the meeting to report. Mrs. Jenny Fee, Associate Principal at the High School, reported in his place. Student Council is busy working on teacher appreciation efforts for teacher appreciation week. The Prom will be May 5th at Meijer Gardens. The graduation planning committee will have their final meeting on May 2nd. Elections for next year's student council were held today and results will be announced tomorrow.

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EGREA President's Report - Mrs. Nancy McSkimming

Mrs. McSkimming was unable to attend the meeting but Dr. Shubel reported that Mrs. McSkimming wanted to thank the district for remembering the elementary students and teachers by providing them tickets for President Bush's speech.

Information Items:

Energy Education Update - Mr. Dan Graham (Enclosure #8)

Dr. Shubel introduced Mr. Graham and Mr. Drew Rhodes of Energy Education. Mr. Graham gave a Power Point presentation outlining the primary goals of the energy education program. He reviewed some of the steps taken in all of the buildings and showed energy conservation and cost-savings results of how we have done over the last eight months. The Board thanked Mr. Graham for his diligence and work in this area.

Childcare Update - Mrs. Julie Jewell (Enclosure #9)

Mr. Philipps introduced Mrs. Julie Jewell. Mrs. Jewell gave an update on the pre-school program and the childcare program. She stated that this is the 10th year for the childcare program. As of this date, the current enrollment numbers for next year are even with the numbers for this year. Mrs. Jewell predicts that the enrollment next year will surpass the enrollment for this year. She also stated that the preschool program has been in existence since 2002 and continues to grow every year. The Board thanked Mrs. Jewell for the update and her supervision of the program, which benefits our community greatly.

Facilities Update - Mr. Joe Camp

Mr. Camp related that the exciting news is the approval of the bids by the Board this evening and he thanked everyone who has been involved in the process. He stated that once the bids are approved, the construction would begin. He also said that the district is still on schedule and under budget.

2007-2008 Budget Update - Mr. Kevin Philipps (Enclosure #11)

Mr. Philipps presented an update on the district budget for this year and where we are at on the budget for next year. Mr. Philipps will bring the recommendations of the budget committee to the May 21, 2007 meeting for review by the Board.

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.

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Recommendation: Motion to approve items in the Consent Agenda Numbers 12 through 16.

Approval of Minutes of REGULAR MEETING of 3/26/07 (Enclosure #12)

Approval of Minutes of SPECIAL MEETING of 3/26/07 (Enclosure #13)

Approval of Minutes of SPECIAL MEETING of 3/26/07 (Enclosure #14)

Approval of Payment of Bills for March 2007 (Enclosure #15)

Approval of Overnight Student Activities (Enclosure #16)

Background: In accordance with Board of Education Policy #7490, the High School has requested approval by the Board of Education for two students to attend the National Latin Convention in Knoxville, Tennessee from July 24-29, 2007 as outlined in Enclosure #16.

Mr. Camp moved to approve Consent Agenda Items #12-16. Mrs. Lent seconded the motion. Motion passed 7-0.

Other Action Items:

Acceptance of Grants from the East Grand Rapids Schools Foundation (Enclosure #17)

At the East Grand Rapids Schools Foundation meeting, the Foundation board awarded the spring grants. Marcie Lewis from the EGR Foundation was unable to be at this meeting and Mrs. Beth Lent, as the Foundation liaison, described the grants for the Board.

Mr. Edison moved to accept the grants awarded by the East Grand Rapids Schools Foundation as listed in Enclosure #17 and to thank the Foundation for its generous support of East Grand Rapids Schools. Mrs. Trierweiler seconded the motion. Motion passed 7-0.

A Hearing to Consider Designation of an Electoral Representative and Alternate to the Kent Intermediate School District Board Election on June 6, 2005 (Enclosure #18)

Section 614(2) of the Revised School Code [MCL380.614(2)] requires the Board to hold an initial hearing of the resolution to appoint an electoral representative and alternate to the ISD board election on Monday, June 4, 2007 and direct the representative to vote on behalf of the Board for a specific candidate.

Discuss potential representatives. Mrs. Ridenour volunteered to attend. Other Board members will review their calendars for availability on June 4th. An alternate representative will be appointed at the May 21st Board of Education meeting along with a recommendation on how to vote.

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Approval of Construction Bids for the Middle School, Wealthy Elementary and the Maintenance Building (Enclosure #19)

Bids were received for the construction being performed at the Middle School, Wealthy Elementary and the Maintenance Building as part of the 2006 Bond Program. The Facilities Committee and Superintendent have received the bids and recommend approval.

Mr. Edison moved to approve the contracts to complete the construction scheduled for the Middle School, Wealthy Elementary and the Maintenance Building for the 2006 Bond Program in the amount of \$3,534,853 as recommended by the Facilities Committee and Superintendent as presented in Enclosure #19. Mr. Camp seconded the motion. Motion passed 7-0.

Approval of Temperature Control Bids for the 2006 Bond Program (Enclosure #20)

Bids were received for the temperature controls package being purchased for the 2006 Bond Program. The Facilities Committee and Superintendent have received the bids and recommend approval.

Mr. Camp moved to approve the purchase of the major mechanical equipment from the low bidder, Johnson Controls in the amount of \$362,174, as recommended by the Facilities Committee and Superintendent. Mrs. Bok seconded the motion. Motion passed 7-0.

Approval of High School Electrical Bid for the 2006 Bond Program (Enclosure #21)

Bids were received for the electrical work being completed at the High School for the 2006 Bond Program. The Facilities Committee and Superintendent have received the bids and recommend approval.

Mrs. Ridenour moved to approve the electrical work contract from the low bidder, VanKempen in the amount of \$387,400, as recommended by the Facilities Committee and Superintendent. Mr. Edison seconded the motion. Motion passed 7-0.

Approval of Bid Alternates and Bulletin #1 for the 2006 Bond Program (Enclosure #22)

After receiving all of the base bids for the 2006 Bond Program, it has been determined that funds are available to approve the inclusion of bid alternate work that was identified during the Design process including an allowance to construct the new Middle School entrance. Also included is Bulletin #1 for work at Breton Downs and Lakeside Elementary as discussed in the enclosure. The Facilities Committee and Superintendent have reviewed the bid alternate projects and Bulletin #1 and recommend approval of the attached list of projects.

Mr. Camp moved to approve the contracts and allowances to complete the bid alternate, Bulletin #1, and the duct cleaning totaling \$322,700 for the 2006 Bond Program as

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recommended by the Facilities Committee and Superintendent as presented in Enclosure #22. Mr. Edison seconded the motion. Motion passed 7-0.

Mrs. Bok moved to approve the allowances, not to exceed \$580,000, for the Middle School entrance and test and balance work district-wide. Mrs. Lent seconded the motion. Motion passed 7-0.

Approval of Classroom Technology Bid (Enclosure #23)

Bids were received for the consolidated classroom technology package being installed with the 2006 Bond Program. The Facilities Committee and Superintendent have received the bids and recommend approval.

Mr. Camp moved to approve the contracts to complete the installation of classroom technology in the amount of \$1,399,859.32 for the 2006 Bond Program as recommended by the Facilities Committee and Superintendent. Mrs. Bok seconded the motion. Motion passed 7-0.

Administrative Reports:

Superintendent

Administrative Positions Update

On April 9th the screening interviews for the high school position began. There were 28-30 candidates and each one has been invited for an initial screening interview. Initial screenings were done by Dr. Shubel, Mrs. Glowicki and Mr. Philipps. Round one interviews will begin this week and go into next week. During round one interviews, there will be representation from the building and the community. Round two interviews will have a few more representatives from the building and the community. Dr. Shubel is still hoping to present a final candidate at the May board meeting.

The Breton Downs position is posted and closes May 4th. This position will follow similar process as the high school position.

MHSAA Season Changes Update

The major issues from these mandated changes for East Grand Rapids will be practice time and space issues. Also, the limited number of officials for sports. Scott Robertson is confident that he can work through these issues and is also working on communication plan for parents.

Dr. Shubel reminded everyone that the high school musical, Fiddler on the Roof, starts on Thursday. She urged everyone to attend this production.

Dr. Shubel also stated that she would be attending the "We the People" national competition in Washington DC this weekend and wished the team well.

Assistant Superintendent of Business - No further report

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Assistant Superintendent of Instruction

Draft of Summer Opportunities for Staff

Mrs. Glowicki passed out the proposed draft for the EGR summer series for teachers. She reviewed and discussed the various selections available.

Social Studies Curriculum Update

Mrs. Glowicki updated the Board on the social studies curriculum. She indicated that the GLEC's from the state have not been posted yet, so this curriculum committee is holding off on textbooks and bringing the curriculum to the Board for approval until more is known at the state level. Because of this, she alerted the Board that she may not be able to unfold the curriculum until August.

Reproductive Health Update

Mrs. Glowicki shared that the committee met to begin looking at what updates need to be made. The committee is comprised of all levels in the schools – elementary, middle and high school. Teachers will need to have to have a new certification to teach health.

Skyward for Elementary Report Cards

Training continues for elementary staff to work with Skyward and to bring on board with the new math curriculum. She credited the whole technology department for their hard work behind the scenes.

Board Representative Report

Policy Committee Update – Mrs. Bok

Mrs. Bok stated that Policy #9410 (Parent(s)/Guardian(s) Visitation of Classrooms) was reviewed as requested by a parent at the March 26, 2007 Board of Education meeting. The Committee has determined that no changes need to be made to this policy. The policy will stand as approved on June 9, 2003.

Communications and Outreach Special Committee Update – Mrs. Ridenour

The committee met a week ago and looked at whether East Grand Rapids Public Schools can assess itself or needs an outside agency. The committee will meet again on May 1st and will bring to the meeting names of individuals in the community to contact to serve on this committee.

Legislative Committee Update – Mr. Denton

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Mr. Denton stated that the main topic at the last meeting was the state funding. The committee encourages all parents to contact their legislators and voice their opinions. Also, House Bill 4592 - Consolidation of Services - was discussed. East Grand Rapids Public Schools and the City of East Grand Rapids already consolidate in some areas. The next Legislative meeting will be on May 14th with representation from Senator Mark Jansen.

Superintendent's Advisory Council Update - Mrs. Trierweiler

Mrs. Trierweiler stated that the topic at the last meeting was School Safety and the timing was outstanding, especially in light of the Virginia Tech shooting, the anniversary of Columbine and the President's visit. Parents would like to know what the communication plan would be for a time of crisis. She stated that this would be something for the Communications committee to discuss.

Adjournment

Mr. Denton reminded everyone of the School Board election on May 8th. He urged everyone to get out and vote.

Mr. Denton also thanked Board members for their efforts to attend PTSA meetings and encouraged them to review the schedule of upcoming PTSA meetings and try to attend as their schedules allow.

Mr. Denton adjourned the meeting at 9:18 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. Sara M. Shubel, Superintendent, at 235-3535. aht-04/30/07