

EAST GRAND RAPIDS PUBLIC SCHOOLS
Kent County, Michigan

REGULAR Meeting of the East Grand Rapids Board of Education

The James E. Morse Administration Center at Woodcliff, 2915 Hall St., SE., East Grand Rapids, MI 49506

Phone 616-235-3535

Our Mission

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

Monday, August 20, 2007

7:00 p.m. - REGULAR MEETING

MINUTES

The REGULAR MEETING of the East Grand Rapids Public Schools Board of Education, Kent County, Michigan, was held on Monday, August 20, 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. Brian Ellis, Mrs. Diane Bok, Mrs. Stacy Trierweiler, Mrs. Julie Ridenour, Mrs. Beth Lent, Mr. Joe Camp, and Mr. Steve Edison

Administration: Dr. Sara Shubel, Mr. Kevin Philipps, Ms. Jeanne Glowicki, Mrs. Jann VanAirsdale, Mrs. Kathy Wisniewski, Mr. Glenn Mitcham, Mrs. Jenny Fee, Mr. Peter Stuursma, Mr. Doug Jenkins, Mrs. Linda Kehm, and Mrs. Wendy VanZegeren

Meeting Called to Order

Mr. Ellis called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. He asked the Board to observe a moment of silence in memory of Michael Winchester, the East Grand Rapids Public Safety Officer who was killed in a motorcycle accident in early August.

Acknowledgment of Guests - None

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Public Comments

Mrs. Beth Lent announced that with regret, she submitted a letter to the Board indicating that she is resigning her position with the Board of Education. She stated she has appreciated her time serving East Grand Rapids Public Schools and wished everyone the best of luck in the future. She and her husband will be moving to Chicago and her resignation will be effective August 27, 2007.

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

Mrs. Trierweiler reported that the Board received a letter of resignation from Mrs. Beth Lent. Also, a thank you card was received from Diane Bok for the flowers from the Board following her recent surgery. Mrs. Trierweiler stated that she sent condolence notes to both Mayor Bartman and the Public Safety Department on behalf of the Board of Education.

Mr. Ellis and Dr. Shubel thanked Mrs. Lent for her 7 years of service to the East Grand Rapids Public Schools. They presented her with a certificate from the Kent ISD acknowledging her 7 years of service. She was also given a certificate of appreciation from the district acknowledging her work, and an engraved gold pen.

Facilities Update - Mr. Camp

Mr. Camp announced that over the last 10 weeks much has been accomplished in the buildings. The buildings will be ready for teachers on August 29th. The Fire Marshall must approve all buildings prior to occupation. Approximately 80% of the bond work has been accomplished over this summer. He stated that there have been a few challenges, but things are coming together. He thanked URS, OAK, and all the construction people, John Bowers, Patty Temple, Doug Jenkins and Kevin Philipps for all of their hard work on the projects. He noted that we continue to be on time and under budget.

Presentation/Discussion: None

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 considered 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 6 through 9

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Approval of Minutes of Organizational MEETING of 7/02/07 (Enclosure #6)

Approval of Minutes of Special Meeting of 7/26/07 (Enclosure #7)

Approval of Payment of Bills for June and July (Enclosure #8)

Approval of Overnight Student Activities (Enclosure #9)

Background: In accordance with Board of Education Policy #7490, the district has various trips and overnight athletic and student activities as outlined in Enclosure #9 for approval by the Board.

Recommendation: Motion to approve various trips and overnight athletic and student activities as outlined in Enclosure #9.

Mrs. Bok moved to approve Consent Agenda Items #6-9. Mrs. Trierweiler seconded the motion. Motion passed 7-0.

Other Action Items:

Approval to Dissolve the Athletic Facilities Assessment Special Committee

The Athletic Facilities Assessment Special Committee was formed for the express purpose of reviewing results from the previous bond election and bringing forward suggestions for Athletic Facilities needs in the district for a special election to be held in November, 2007. This committee has fulfilled its purpose.

Mrs. Ridenour moved to approve the dissolution of the Athletic Facilities Assessment Special Committee. Mr. Edison seconded the motion. Mr. Ellis recognized Mrs. Lent, Mr. Camp and Mr. Edison and thanked them for their time and efforts. Motion passed 7-0.

Appoint Delegate Representatives to MASB Fall Conference Delegate Assembly (Enclosure #11)

The Michigan Association of School Boards' 2007 Delegate Assembly is meeting at the annual 2007 Fall Conference at the Amway Grand Plaza Hotel and DeVos Place Convention Center in Grand Rapids on Thursday, November 1, 2007. Three delegates may be appointed to represent the East Grand Rapids Board of Education.

Mrs. Ridenour moved to appoint Mrs. Trierweiler, Mrs. Bok and Mr. Edison as delegates to the MASB 2007 Delegate Assembly. Mrs. Lent seconded the motion. Motion passed 7-0.

Approval of Region 3 Candidate for the MASB Board of Directors Three-Year Term (Enclosure #12)

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Official ballots must be returned to MASB by September 7, 2007, to participate in the MASB Board of Directors Election. One candidate, Steve Zinger (nominated by Grandville Schools), has been nominated to represent our region, Region 3.

Mrs. Trierweiler moved to approve Steve Zinger as the candidate to represent Region 3 on the MASB Board of Directors. Mr. Edison seconded the motion. Motion passed 7-0.

Approval of OK Conference Expansion/Re-Alignment Beginning 2008-2009 (Enclosure #13)

The OK Conference has presented a proposal for the expansion/re-alignment beginning in 2008-2009. This proposal has been approved and recommended for acceptance by the Athletic Commission and the Executive Council of the OK Conference.

Mrs. Lent moved to approve the OK Conference expansion/re-alignment beginning 2008-2009 as described in Enclosure #13. Mrs. Bok seconded the motion. The motion was discussed and questions were answered. Motion passed 7-0.

Approval of Superintendent Goals for 2007-2008 (Enclosure #14)

Following the discussion at the Organizational Meeting on July 2, 2007, the finalization of the Superintendent Goals for 2007-2008 are presented.

Mrs. Trierweiler moved to approve the finalized Superintendent's Goals for 2007-2008 per Enclosure #14. Mrs. Bok seconded the motion. Motion passed 7-0.

Approval of Resolution to call a Special School Board Election on Tuesday, November 6, 2007 (Enclosure #15)

The Department of Treasury has approved the preliminary qualification of the district's bond issue, which was presented to the Treasury Department on July 2, 2007. This allows the Board to move forward and officially call for a special election on November 6, 2007 related to the district Athletic Facility Bond proposal.

Mr. Camp moved to approve the resolution to officially call for a special election on November 6, 2007. Mrs. Lent seconded the motion. Motion passed 7-0.

Approval to Purchase Meal Magic Software for Food Service Department (Enclosure #16)

Our Food Service Management company, Chartwells, has recommended an upgrade to our food service point of sale system. The upgrade will be web-based, which will provide excellent flexibility and ease of use for parents and students. The Finance Committee and Superintendent have reviewed the proposed upgrade and recommend approval.

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Mrs. Ridenour moved to approve the purchase of the Meal Magic software upgrade in the amount of \$27,688.00. Mrs. Bok seconded the motion. Discussion followed. Motion passed 7-0.

Administrative Reports:

Superintendent

Opening of School

Dr. Shubel announced that first day for staff will be August 29th and first day for students will be September 4th. She reiterated that the buildings will be ready for both staff and students.

New Staff (Enclosure #17B)

Dr. Shubel introduced Mrs. Wendy VanZegeren, Principal at Breton Downs Elementary. Dr. Shubel stated that she has met with all new staff and that they are currently going through new staff orientation this week with Mrs. Glowicki and various other administrators in the district in order to understand the East Grand Rapids school system.

Michigan Merit Exam

Dr. Shubel announced that this is the first year that all juniors in the state took the ACT test. East Grand Rapids ranked highest in the county in the tests and this is a tribute to our entire teaching staff.

Assistant Superintendent of Business

State Budget Update

Mr. Philipps stated that not much has happened since the Board last met in July. There is political gridlock going on in Lansing and not much movement of the state budget. It appears that September 30th will be the timeline to hear anything. We need to continue to wait to see what will happen in Lansing. There is continuing talk of collaboration of services within public schools and also the bidding of all services over \$19,653.00 - i.e., audit services, construction services, etc.

Athletic Advertising Signage Update

Mr. Philipps handed out information on 50 banner spots open at Memorial Field for advertising. This information is being handed out by Scott Robertson to businesses in East and elsewhere. All banners will have to be approved by the district. There has been a two-tiered system put in place for banners. This has been discussed with the Finance Committee. The funds brought in will reduce the General Fund subsidy for athletics. The Board members expressed support for the signage.

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Assistant Superintendent of Instruction

Diversity Rally Update

The diversity rally was hosted last week by East Grand Rapids Public Schools in the high school PAC. There were over 326 people in attendance. Bob Woodrick was the guest speaker and Mrs. Kuklewski and two students were highlighted for their work at East Grand Rapids Middle School. This was the 4th year of the rally.

New Staff Orientation

Mrs. Glowicki handed out the overview of the new teacher orientation. There are 8 new staff members this year. She discussed how technology is so important and works hand-in-hand with instruction. Orientation began today and the morning was spent working with technology in the district. She reviewed the activities to be held for the rest of the week and indicated that all new staff would get together throughout the year for more training and discussion.

Board Representative Reports

Board Committee Assignments – Mr. Ellis (Enclosure #20A)

Mr. Ellis reviewed the Board Committee assignment sheet.

Board/Administrative Workshop– Mr. Ellis

Mr. Ellis announced that the Board/Administrative Workshop would be held on Monday, August 27th at 5:00 p.m. Also at that meeting, the Board will discuss the process to fill the vacancy of Mrs. Lent from the Board.

Mr. Ellis urged everyone in the audience to stay for cake and wish Mrs. Lent well. He again thanked her for her 8 years of service to the students, staff and parents of East Grand Rapids Public Schools.

Adjournment

Mr. Ellis adjourned the meeting at 7:58 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Stacy L. Trierweiler, Secretary

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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 - 08/21/07