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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 22, 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, October 22, 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, Mr. Joe Camp, Mr. Steve Edison, and Mr. Peter Ruppert

Administration: Dr. Sara Shubel, Mr. Kevin Philipps, Mrs. Jann VanAirsdale, Mr. Glenn Mitcham, Mrs. Jenny Fee, Mr. Peter Stuursma, Mr. Doug Jenkins, and Mrs. Wendy VanZegeren

Meeting Called to Order

Mr. Ellis called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

Acknowledgment of Guests - None

Public Comments - None

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

Mrs. Trierweiler reported that the Board received a thank you card from Beth Lent for the recognition given to her for her work on the Board of Education and the gold pen; a thank you card from Paul Kline for the clock given to him for his retirement and for the support over the years; and a thank you card from Cheryl Leidlein for the book donated in memory of her mother-in-law.

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High School Student Council President's Report – Mr. Alex Yared

Mr. Yared shared that Homecoming Week was very successful. The Cystic Fibrosis fundraiser is the next project that student council will be involved in with a goal of raising \$1,000 this year. He stated that the student body excited for football playoffs.

EGREA President's Report - Mrs. Nancy McSkimming

Mrs. McSkimming was not at the meeting to give a report as she had a family conflict.

Recognition of East Grand Rapids Commended Students in the 2008 National Merit Scholarship Competition –Mrs. Jenny Fee

Mrs. Fee stated that these students scored in the top 1% in the nation. She then introduced: Brendan Campbell; Elliot Hoff; Jessica Kane; Ian McDonald; Alexandra Tourek; and Geoffrey Wright who were presented with certificates of recognition by Dr. Shubel and Mrs. Stacy Trierweiler on behalf of the Board of Education.

Discussion Items:

Energy Education Program Update – Mr. Graham (Enclosure #8)

Mr. Philipps introduced Mr. Graham who presented an update on the Energy Education Program. He gave a brief background and overview of the program and also reviewed our energy savings since the inception, 15 months ago, of the program in East Grand Rapids Public Schools.

Technology Integration Update – Mr. Jenkins

Mr. Jenkins gave a brief update of the technology integration throughout the district. He showed some photos of the technology carts in action in the elementary, middle school and high school.

Curriculum, Instruction, Assessment & Technology Coordination – Mrs. Glowicki (Enclosure #10)

Mrs. Glowicki and Mr. Jenkins gave an overview of curriculum, instruction, assessment and technology. They reviewed the process (research and study; review and develop; implement and reflect; and ongoing support), and the 2007-08 I.T. initiatives. The Board had opportunity for comments and questions.

First Reading of Revised Policy #8320 and Acknowledgement of Revised Policy Rules #8320-R (Student Use of Electronic Devices) – (Enclosure #11)

Mrs. Bok reviewed the changes to the policy and some of the reasons for the changes. Basically the changes being made tighten up the policy on student use of electronic devices. There was discussion by the Board of the proposed changes. It was noted that a comprehensive communication plan would be implemented to educated students, parents and staff prior to the enforcement of the new policy. The new policy would go into effect at the beginning of second semester. Board member suggested revisions will be made to both the policy and rules and brought back before the Board for a second reading and approval at the November meeting.

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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 12 through 14

Approval of Minutes of REGULAR MEETING of 9/24/07 (Enclosure #12)

Approval of Payment of Bills for September 2007 (Enclosure #13)

Approval of Overnight Student Activities (Enclosure #14)

Background: In accordance with Board of Education Policy #7490, the Middle School has an additional trip and overnight activity at outlined in Enclosure #14 for approval by the Board.

Mrs. Bok moved to approve Consent Agenda Items #12-14. Mrs. Trierweiler seconded the motion. There was some discussion and many positive comments of the Middle School program, which will be voted on at this meeting. Motion passed 7-0.

Other Action Items:

Administrative Reports:

Superintendent

Student Count Update

Dr. Shubel noted that enrollment at the end of September was 3,014 students. She stated that this was down some students from the spring count of 3,040. She noted that in the spring East graduated a large senior class and in the fall took in a smaller kindergarten class. She also reported that statewide the birth rate is down.

Assistant Superintendent of Business

State Budget Update

Mr. Philipps reviewed the situation in Lansing and the state budget. The state is currently on a continuation budget until the end of this month when the government will be laying out the new budget. Until legislators in Lansing firm the budget up, we are still planning on no increase to our state aid payment.

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Assistant Superintendent of Instruction

Social Studies Curriculum Update

Mrs. Glowicki reported that she took a team of teachers to Michigan State in early October for the roll out of the state curriculum standards in Social Studies, which unfortunately it is still not complete. Our K-8 curriculum will be put on hold until the state can tell us what their content expectations will be. The curriculum 9-12 will be presented to the Board for approval in November.

Board Representative Report

Parks and Recreation Commission – Mr. Camp

Mr. Camp reported that the Parks and Recreation Commission has given their unanimous support and endorsed the Bond proposal.

City Commission – Mr. Camp/Mr. Edison

Mr. Camp and Mr. Edison reported that the City Commission also gave their unanimous support and endorsement to the Bond proposal.

Community Bond Forum – October 23, 2007 – Mr. Ellis

Mr. Ellis reminded everyone to attend the Community Bond Forum tomorrow evening at the High School Little Auditorium beginning at 7:30 p.m. The format will be a presentation and then questions from the audience so that people in the community can make an informed decision on the bond.

Adjournment

Mr. Ellis stated that the next Board meeting would be Monday, November 26th at 7:00 p.m.

Mr. Ellis adjourned the meeting at 9:07 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 -10/23/07