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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

For Information, call 616-235-3535.

Monday, November 26, 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, November 26, 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. Larry Fisher, Mr. Peter Stuursma, Mrs. Linda Kehm, Mr. Mark Tompkins, Mr. Doug Jenkins, and Mrs. Wendy VanZegeren

Meeting Called to Order

Mr. Ellis called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. Mr. Ellis congratulated Mr. Stuursma and the football team on their state football championship win over the weekend. He also thanked the student body and the community for their support of the team.

Acknowledgment of Guests - None

Public Comments

Stephen Winn 2655 Maplewood Drive (Student) - Commented on the proposed cell phone policy.

Jessica Kane 3160 Hall Street SE (Student) - Commented on the proposed cell phone policy. (See attached)

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Libby Southworth, Sr. 1539 Ridgewood SE (Parent) – Commented on the proposed cell phone policy.

Galina Gagin 1544 Eastlawn SE (Student) -- Commented on the proposed cell phone policy.

Board Secretary's Report - Communications to and from the Board -

Mrs. Trierweiler reported that the Board received a thank you card from Mat Keller (Breton Downs 2nd Grade) for the gift certificate to Schuler's following the birth of his son and a card of congratulations from Dr. James Morse on the successful passage of the bond.

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

Mr. Yared reported that student council hosted the annual arts and crafts show on November 17th. The Cystic Fibrosis fund raiser was held and results will be announced at a later date. The Veterans Day assembly went well and the Student Council is looking to make a few changes for next year, they would like to have some of the veterans speak at the assembly. The Food Drive starts December 3-10. Mr. Yared stated that on December 5th Dick DeVos will be speaking at PAC. This speech is being hosted by Young Republicans Club. He congratulated both the "We The People" team and football team. Mr. Yared also gave his comments on the proposed cell phone policy.

EGREA President's Report - Mrs. Nancy McSkimming

Mrs. McSkimming stated that Parent/Teacher conferences went well and were well attended. She thanked the parents for their involvement in the education of their children.

Presentation:

Facilities Update - Mr. Joe Camp

Mr. Camp thanked the community for passing the athletic bond. The 2006 bond is wrapping up and punch lists are being completed. Next summer work will be completed on the 2006 bond, air conditioning will be installed and the Middle School entrance will be changed. The 2007 bond schedule is being developed with Mehney Field as the first project to be completed with others following. We are trying to limit the impact of the construction on the students.

9-12 Social Studies Curriculum Presentation (Enclosure #8)

Members of the High School Social Studies Department presented their updated and realigned curriculum for Grades 9-12 to the Board of Education. It was presented to the Curriculum Advisory Team on November 13, 2007. Members of the committee in attendance at this meeting included: Bill Strickland, Pierre Sirois, Chris Stabile, Steve Wojchiechowski, Anne LeGrand, Christine Mapes, and Renee Lawson.

Reproductive Health Curriculum Presentation (Enclosure #9)

The reproductive health curriculum has been updated for Grades 5, 8, and 9-12 to meet state requirements and presented, along with proposed resources, to the Curriculum Advisory Team on October 16, 2007. The following members of the committee presented the curriculum and

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corresponding resource materials to the Board of Education: Laurie Potter, Sherry Blair, Jenny Fee, Peter Stuursma, Cheryl Blair (KISD), Kris Bratlie, and Alison Peot.

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 10 through 12.

Approval of Minutes of REGULAR MEETING of 10/22/07 (Enclosure #10)

Approval of October Payment of Bills (Enclosure #11)

Approval of Overnight Student Activities (Enclosure #12)

In accordance with Board of Education Policy #7490, the High School has an additional trip and overnight activity as outlined in Enclosure #12 for approval by the Board.

Mrs. Trierweiler moved to approve Consent Agenda Items #10-12. Mrs. Bok seconded the motion. Motion passed 7-0.

Other Action Items:

Second Reading and Approval of Revised Policy #8320 & Rules #8320R (Student Use of Electronic Devices) (Enclosure #13)

The Board had a first reading of revised Policy #8320 and Rules #8320R (Student Use of Electronic Devices) at the Board of Education meeting on October 22, 2007. As requested a few revisions have been made.

Mr. Camp moved to approve revised Policy #8320 and Rules #8320R (Student Use of Electronic Devices), as recommended by the Policy Committee and Superintendent. Mrs. Bok seconded the motion. The Board had discussion and asked questions of the high school team for clarification of the proposed policy. Motion passed 7-0.

Resolution to Authorize Issuance of Bonds (Enclosure #14)

To begin facilitating the sale of bonds related to the Athletic Bond Proposal passed on November 6, 2007, the Board needs to authorize the issuance of bonds through a resolution. Passage of this resolution will authorize the administration to move forward to have our bonds priced in the open market. The Finance Committee and Superintendent have discussed the bond sale strategy with our underwriter and financial advisor and recommend approval of the resolution.

Mrs. Ridenour moved to approve the resolution to authorize the issuance of bonds as recommended by the Finance Committee and Superintendent and presented in Enclosure #14. Mr. Edison seconded the motion. Motion passed 7-0.

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Approval to Authorize EGRPS to Deposit \$40,000 per Year for the Next 10 Years to the Joint Facilities Fund for Future Field Turf Replacement

The Joint Facilities Committee has agreed to formalize its commitment to creating a turf replacement fund shared equally between the East Grand Rapids Public Schools and the City of East Grand Rapids. This motion would commit the East Grand Rapids Board of Education to contribute \$40,000 per year for the next 10 years to this fund.

Mr. Edison moved to approve to commit to a \$40,000 per year for the next 10 years contribution to the Joint Facilities Fund for future field turf replacement. Mr. Ruppert seconded the motion. Motion passed 7-0.

Approval of Middle School Front Entrance Design (Enclosure #16)

The Facilities Committee has been reviewing design plans for the new Middle School Front Entrance to be built next summer. URS will be presenting the design for the new front entrance. The Facilities Committee and Superintendent have reviewed the design and recommend approving the design and moving forward toward construction. Fred Gore and Ralph Moxley of URS presented the design to the Board.

Mr. Edison moved to approve the design for the Middle School Front Entrance as recommended by the Facilities Committee and Superintendent. Mr. Camp seconded the motion. Motion passed 7-0.

2006-2007 Audit Report

The audit was completed by Hungerford, Aldrin, Nichols & Carter, P.C. this fall. The Board Finance Committee reviewed the report and recommends that the Board of Education receive the 2006-2007 Audit Report. Mr. Philipps thanked Nancy McCormick, Marilyn Murray, Teresa Catlin, Dawn Beemer and Bev Headworth for their work in keeping the day-to-day running of the district clean.

Mr. Ridenour moved to receive the 2006-2007 Audit Report as presented and recommended by the Board Finance Committee and Superintendent. Mrs. Trierweiler seconded the motion. The Board thanked Mr. Philipps for his handling of the budget and receiving a clean opinion from the auditors. Motion passed 7-0.

2007-2008 General Fund Budget Amendment (Enclosure #18)

Each fall, the Board Finance Committee recommends a Budget Amendment to the Board of Education. The Finance Committee has reviewed the proposed amendment.

Mr. Edison moved to approve the amendment for the 2007-08 budget as listed in Enclosure #18. Mrs. Bok seconded the motion. Motion passed 7-0.

Administrative Reports

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Foundation Grant Process – Dr. Shubel gave an overview of the Foundation Grant process. This year Dr. Shubel, Mrs. Glowicki and Mr. Jenkins gave recommendations to the Foundation Board on the various grants. This week the full Foundation Board will be approving grants and grant awards will be announced at our December 10th meeting.

Assistant Supt. for Business

2007 Bond Project Timeline – Mr. Philipps reviewed a tentative timeline for the 2007 bond projects, which is included in the Board packets this month.

Assistant Supt. for Instruction

New Teacher Diversity Training – Mrs. Glowicki stated that on November 19th the new teachers went through diversity training. She indicated that this is the 5th year of training for teachers.

Diversity Training Opportunity for Support Staff - Support staff has asked for diversity training and Mrs. Glowicki stated that it will be offered during the February Professional Development days. There are currently 20 support staff signed up for this training.

Math Implementation Update – The Team continues to meet with the first Professional Development opportunity for teachers being held on November 15th.

Board Representative Report

Due to time constraints, Mrs. Trierweiler will report on both PASE and the MASB Assembly at the December 10th Board of Education meeting.

Adjournment

Mr. Ellis adjourned the meeting at 9:48 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, Superintendent, at 235-3535.

Superintendent's Office – 11/27/07