

Our Mission

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

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 Street, SE, East Grand Rapids, MI 49506.

Phone 616-235-3535.

Thursday, March 19, 2009

7:00 p.m.

MINUTES

The REGULAR MEETING of the East Grand Rapids Public Schools Board of Education, Kent County, Michigan, was held on Thursday, March 19, 2009 in the Community Board Room at the James E. Morse Administration Center at Woodcliff, 2915 Hall Street SE, East Grand Rapids, MI 49506.

Board of Education:

Present: Mr. Brian Ellis, Mr. Steve Edison, Mrs. Stacy Trierweiler, Mrs. Julie Ridenour, Mr. Peter Ruppert, Mrs. A. Michelle Rabideau, and Mr. Robert Minnema

Administration: Dr. Sara Shubel, Mrs. Jeanne Glowicki, Mrs. Wendy VanZegeren, Mrs. Heidi Christiansen, Mr. Larry Fisher, Mrs. Jenny Fee, Mr. Peter Stuursma, and Mrs. Jann VanAirsdale

Meeting Called to Order

Mr. Ellis called the meeting to order at 7:01 p.m. He stated that item #10 will be taken off the agenda as the State still has the MEAP scores embargoed.

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 Katie McIntosh (Kindergarten - Breton Downs) for the gift certificate to Schuler's following the birth of her daughter and a thank you card from Lindsey Lantz (Science - Middle School) for the gift certificate to Schuler's following the birth of her son.

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Recognition of:

Scott Robertson – Certified Athletic Administrator

Dr. Shubel and Mr. Edison presented Mr. Robertson with a certificate of recognition. Dr. Shubel stated it is quite an intensive process to achieve the certification. She congratulated him for his accomplishment.

Staff Appreciation Dates:

- (1) Crossing Guard Week - April 12-18, 2009 - Dr. Shubel
- (2) Support Staff Week - April 19-25, 2009 - Dr. Shubel
- (3) Secretaries' Day - April 22, 2009 - Dr. Shubel
- (4) Parent and Volunteer Appreciation Week - April 26 - May 2, 2009 - Dr. Shubel
- (5) Teacher Appreciation Week - May 3-9, 2009 - Dr. Shubel

High School Student Council President's Report – Mr. Sam Wohns

Mr. Wohns arrived later in the meeting and reported that Kabookie Week went very well and was positive for students. Prom will be at the beginning of May and will take place at St. Nicholas Cultural Center. The Seniors are currently involved in end of the year activities and anticipating graduation. Student Council is hoping to do another student exchange with East Kentwood High School before the end of the year.

EGREA President's Report - Mrs. Shelly Schram

No report this month as both Mrs. Schram and Mrs. McSkimming are at a conference out of town. Dr. Shubel reported for them that elementary Parent/Teacher conferences are coming up in the near future.

Information Items:

Facilities Update –Mr. Steve Edison

Mr. Edison reported on the work taking place at the high school – new lights, scoreboard at track installed, Memorial Field scoreboard being installed, bleachers going in and elevator shaft is in. Project is on-time and on-budget.

Special Education Report (Enclosure #9) – Mrs. Jann VanAirsdale

Mrs. VanAirsdale introduced Lisa Menichino and Kara Green, special education teachers at the high school. They presented a brief overview of co-teaching and a powerpoint presentation describing co-teaching. There were comments and questions from the Board.

Fall 2008 Grades 3-9 MEAP Report – Mr. Doug Jenkins

No report as the State still has the grades embargoed.

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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 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 11 through 17.

Approval of Minutes of SPECIAL MEETING of 2/16/09 (Enclosure #11)

Approval of Minutes of REGULAR MEETING of 2/23/09 (Enclosure #12)

Approval of Payment of Bills for February 2009 (Enclosure #13)

Approval of New High School Course

At the February 23, 2009 Board of Education meeting the following course was presented to the Board for review and discussion: Guided Study.

Approval of New High School Course

At the February 23, 2009 Board of Education meeting the following course was presented to the Board for review and discussion: Computer Animation and Game Design.

Second Reading and Approval of Revised Policy #7110 (Basic Program) (Enclosure #16)

The Board had a first reading of revised Policy #7110 (Basic Program) at the Board of Education meeting on February 23, 2009.

Second Reading and Approval of Revised Policy #7630 (Graduation Requirements) (Enclosure #17)

The Board had a first reading of revised Policy #7630 (Graduation Requirements) at the Board of Education meeting on February 23, 2009.

Mr. Ruppert asked to have Item #14 pulled for further discussion. Mrs. Ridenour moved to approve consent agenda items #11-13 and #15-17. Mrs. Trierweiler seconded the motion. Motion passed 7-0.

Mr. Minnema moved to approve Item #14. Mrs. Trierweiler seconded the motion. There was discussion and questions regarding Item #14. Motion passed 7-0.

Other Action Items:

Approval of Numbers for the 2009-2010 Schools of Choice Program (Enclosure #18)

The East Grand Rapids Public Schools has participated in the Kent Intermediate School District Collaborative Schools of Choice Program since its inception in the 1996-97 school year. The Finance Committee and Superintendent are recommending that we accept 19 students at the elementary school level through the 2009-10 Kent ISD Collaborative Schools of Choice Program.

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Mrs. Ridenour moved to accept 19 students at the elementary school level through the 2009-10 Kent ISD Collaborative Schools of Choice Program. Mr. Edison seconded the motion. There was discussion and comments by the Board. Motion passed 7-0.

Administrative Reports

Superintendent

ASCD Annual Conference – Dr. Shubel reported that the conference was held in Orlando, Florida this year and was well attended. She stated that the offerings were phenomenal and all 6 administrators from East who attended came away with great ideas which they hope to implement in their buildings. The theme of the conference this year was “Learning Beyond Boundaries.” She described the four strands of the conference and how each strand was important to the way East teaches our children. She gave a brief recap of the keynote speakers and thanked the Board for allowing the administrators to attend the conference. Mrs. Glowicki described a few of her experiences and classes while at the conference. Dr. Shubel concluded with a couple of quotes from the conference that stood out for her.

Assistant Superintendent of Business

No reports this month.

Assistant Superintendent of Instruction

Science Curriculum Update – Mrs. Glowicki reported she met with the elementary group today. She stated that the K-5 science curriculum is in great shape. Middle School and High School science have both pushed themselves hard and have rigorous curriculum. The committee hope to finish up by end of year.

Social Studies Curriculum Update – The Middle School team will be meeting tomorrow to write curriculum. Mrs. Glowicki noted that the K-8 social studies is on a great track.

World Language Update – Next week this group meets to continue their work. Dr. Shubel, Mr. Ellis and Mrs. Glowicki attended a conference in Lansing regarding world languages and brought back some good ideas.

Mrs. Glowicki reported that all three curriculums will be brought to the Board soon for approval.

Board Representative Reports - None

Adjournment

Mr. Ellis adjourned the meeting at 8:06 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 – 03/20/09