

## ***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, Community Board Room  
2915 Hall Street SE, East Grand Rapids, MI 49506  
For Information, call 616-235-3535

**February 22, 2010**

**6:00 p.m.**

**Minutes**

The REGULAR MEETING of the East Grand Rapids Public Schools Board of Education, Kent County, Michigan, was held on Monday, February 22, 2010 in the Community Board Room of the James E. Morse Administration Center at Woodcliff, 2915 Hall St., SE, East Grand Rapids, MI 49506.

#### **Board of Education:**

##### **Present:**

Mr. Brian Ellis, Mr. Steve Edison, Mrs. Stacy Trierweiler, Mr. Peter Ruppert, Mrs. A. Michelle Rabideau

##### **Absent:**

Mr. Robert Minnema, Mrs. Julie Ridenour

##### **Administration:**

Dr. Sara M. Shubel, Ms. Jeanne Glowicki, Mr. Kevin Philipps, Mr. Peter Stuursma, Mrs. Jenny Fee, Mrs. Linda Kehm, Mrs. Wendy VanZegeren, Mrs. Jann VanAirsdale, and Mr. Doug Jenkins

#### **Meeting Called to Order**

Mr. Ellis called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

**Public Comments** – None.

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

Mrs. Trierweiler stated that the Board received communications regarding:

- Thank You
  - Dale Streeter (MS Teacher)
  - Ross Ensing (MS Support Staff)
  - Erni Ensing (Breton Support Staff)
  - Marjo Jordan (spouse of Walter)
  - Lucy Lefleur (Legislative Committee Co-Chair)
- Proposed Budget Reductions
  - Wendy Kettler

#### **High School Student Council President's Report** – Ms. Sonia Nicola

Ms. Julia Hickey, Senior Class Vice President, reported on behalf of Ms. Sonia Nicola that the high school completed Kabookie week, which focused on teaching freshman about who he was. Larry Fisher spoke and presented a video to freshman, and classes held fun activities. Blood Drive has ended having had 145 student volunteers, and 87 pints of blood donated. Student Council is looking forward to upcoming spring service projects.

Dr. Shubel congratulated Julia on her invitation to apply for the Presidential Scholarship Award, which is a huge honor in which only a handful of students in United States are asked to apply.

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### EGREA President's Report – Mrs. Shelly Schram

Mrs. Schram announced that the Middle School Math Department held a Math-a-thon where 116 students participated and raised over \$2,600 for St. Jude's Children's Hospital. Mrs. Schram also reported on Professional Development Days, and thanked Ms. Glowicki on behalf of the staff for the opportunities provided for teachers on these two days.

### Presentation:

#### Report on February Professional Development Days – Ms. Jeanne Glowicki

Ms. Glowicki gave a brief overview of the Professional Development Days and presented a slideshow of learning and teaching activities that took place during these two days, as well as comments and feedback from guest presenters and staff. The theme this year was "21<sup>st</sup> Century Learning." At the opening of the Professional Development Days, keynote speaker, Sara Kajder, Professor from Virginia Tech, presented on the theme of infusing technology into literacy and how it is a part of our everyday lives. Positive teacher comments and feedback were immediately received from staff and presenters. The second keynote was a comedy group from Chicago, Wavelength, adding humor and staff participation while performing a musical which featured parodies of favorite musical songs focused on today's most pressing educational issues.

The presenters spoke highly of EGR staff and facilities and indicated that they would love to return to EGR to present again. A Professional Learning Conference evaluation for staff members is provided online to receive feedback. Ms. Glowicki mentioned that staff from St. Stephen's joined our staff for the Professional Development Days also. The two days were very successful and entertaining for all who attended.

Mr. Ellis thanked Ms. Glowicki and her team for their work. Dr. Shubel recognized staff for their relationships with their colleagues, as several teachers were also presenters during the sessions.

#### New High School Proposed Course - Varsity Men's Choir (Enclosure # 8)

Ms. Jeanne Glowicki and Mr. Jim Borst presented an overview of the Varsity Men's Choir proposal. Mr. Borst expressed his desire to build the choral music program for young men since their participation has decreased over the last three years. The investment would have a great return in two years at no cost to the district. There was a discussion and questions from the Board.

#### New High School Proposed Course - Personal Finance (Enclosure # 9)

Ms. Jeanne Glowicki and Mr. Nick Hopkins presented an overview of the Personal Finance proposal. Mr. Hopkins expressed the importance of teaching students about personal finance which they will use in their every day lives. Ms. Glowicki provided further explanation that this class would also be an option for students who are struggling to reach an adequate number of credits to fulfill graduation requirements. Cost involves a textbook total of approximately \$2200 which Ms. Fee has set aside in the budget. There was a discussion and questions from the Board.

#### New High School Proposed Course - AP Human Geography (Enclosure #10)

Ms. Jeanne Glowicki and Mr. Pierre Sirois presented an overview of the AP Human Geography proposal. Mr. Sirois indicated that the AP College Board has created this class recently and it provides an option for 9<sup>th</sup> graders to take an AP class which helps meet our mission statement. Mr. Sirois presented the objective and rationale for the course. Cost involves a textbook total of approximately \$2400. There was a discussion and questions from the Board.

Mr. Ellis commended the administrators and staff for continuing to improve class offerings at the high school during lean budget times.

### 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 the Consent Agenda Numbers 11 through 17.

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Approval of Minutes of SPECIAL MEETING of 01/26/2010 (Enclosure #11)

Approval of Minutes of REGULAR MEETING of 01/26/2010 (Enclosure #12)

Approval of Minutes of SPECIAL MEETING of 01/26/2010 (Enclosure #13)

Approval of Payment of Bills for January 2010 (Enclosure #14)

Second Reading of Approval of Revised Policy #8300 and #8300-R (Code of Student Conduct) (Enclosure #15)

Second Reading of Approval of Revised Policy #9230 and #9230-R (School Volunteers) (Enclosure #16)

Approval of Foreign Exchange Student – Fall 2010 (Enclosure #17)

Mr. Edison moved to approve items in the Consent Agenda Numbers 11 through 17. Ms. Trierweiler seconded the motion. Motion passed 5-0.

### **Other Action Items:**

Approval of the Schools of Choice Resolutions for 2010-2011 (Enclosure #18)

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.

Approval of a Resolution to Opt Out of Section 105

East Grand Rapids Public Schools has opted out of the State Choice Plan since the inception of the KISD Collaborative Schools of Choice Plan in the 1996-97 school year.

Mrs. Trierweiler moved to pass a resolution to exercise the option permitted by Section 105 of the State School Aid Act of 1979, as amended by Public Act 300 of 1996, to not accept Section 105 applications of non-resident students from outside our district, for purposes of operating an intermediate school district-wide schools of choice program in accordance with Section 105 for the 2010-11 school year. Mr. Edison seconded the motion. Motion passed 5-0.

Approval of a Resolution to Opt Out of Section 105c

In accordance with Section 105c as permitted in the State School Aid Act, Public Act 119 of 1999, as amended by Public Act 297 of 2000, it is recommended that East Grand Rapids Public Schools not accept applications for enrollment from residents of contiguous intermediate school districts for the 2010-11 school year.

Mrs. Trierweiler moved to pass a resolution to exercise the option permitted by Section 105c of the State School Aid Act, Public Act 119 of 1999, as amended by Public Act 297 of 2000, to not accept applications for enrollment from residents of contiguous intermediate school districts for the 2010-11 school year. Mrs. Rabideau seconded the motion. Motion passed 5-0.

Approval of a Resolution to Participate in the 2010-11 Kent Intermediate School District Collaborative Schools of Choice Program

This is the eighth year of the KISD Schools of Choice Program.

Mr. Edison moved to pass a resolution to participate in the Kent ISD Collaborative Schools of Choice Program for the 2010-11 school year. Mrs. Trierweiler seconded the motion. Motion passed 5-0.

**Mr. Robert Minnema arrived at 7:04 p.m.**

### **Administrative Reports**

#### **Superintendent**

Dr. Shubel announced that Mr. Philipps would be presenting on the budget and indicated that his presentation will also be held at all school buildings, giving the community an opportunity to hear and see Mr. Philipps' presentation. Information is also posted on the EGR website regarding the budget.

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### Assistant Superintendent for Business

Mr. Philipps gave an overview of the Governor's proposal of expanding sales tax to services and lowering the current 6% sales tax to 5.5%. This would generate an additional \$550 million over the next year. By 2014, we would be revenue neutral. Mr. Philipps also provided details on changes to the retirement system. Revenue and budget assumptions were also discussed, as well as the general fund budget. The Budget Committee has been working on recommendations. A discussion was held and questions answered. Mr. Edison stressed the importance of needing the community to express their concerns to elected officials.

### Assistant Superintendent for Instruction

None.

### Board Representative Report

Mrs. Trierweiler announced that a presentation will be held on March 9, 2010 by Kindy Segovia, Assistive Technology Coordinator at Kent Intermediate School District.

### Adjournment

Mr. Ellis adjourned the meeting at 7:17 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Stacy Trierweiler, Secretary  
East Grand Rapids Public Schools 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 – 02/23/2010