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***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

Pioneer Auditorium at Wealthy Elementary
1961 Lake Drive SE, East Grand Rapids, MI 49506
For Information, call 616-235-3535

April 26, 2010

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, April 26, 2010 in the Pioneer Auditorium at Wealthy Elementary, 1961 Lake Drive, 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, Mr. Robert Minnema, Mrs. Julie Ridenour

Absent: None.

Administration: Dr. Sara M. Shubel, Ms. Jeanne Glowicki, Mr. Kevin Philipps, Mr. Peter Stuursma, Mrs. Jenny Fee, Mrs. Wendy VanZegeren, Mrs. Jann VanAirsdale, Mr. Doug Jenkins, Mr. Glenn Mitcham, Mr. Larry Fisher, Mrs. Heidi Sunderhaft

Meeting Called to Order

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

Public Comments - Mr. Ellis explained that a couple of agenda items would be adjusted during the meeting, with the budget presentation to be held at the end of the meeting with public comments to follow. Item #13A, Custodial Contract, to be added to the agenda.

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

Mrs. Trierweiler reported the following communications to and from the Board:

Thank you from:

- Shari Brown/Mike Walton, community members, for the efforts of BOE and Superintendent
- Sarah Propst, Social Worker, for Schuler Gift Card following the birth of her daughter, Nora

Proposed budget reductions from:

Steven Brinks	Sarah Kugler	Jillian Decker
Breana Austhof	Reed Bretz	Mary Jo Tsimboukis
Beth Dantuma	Butch Briggs	Noel McGarrity
Jeanine Luciani	Ruth Brandt	HS Student Petition

District financial issues from community member, Susie Evert.

Economic Club of Grand Rapids recognized high school student, Ari MacCartney, winner of the Spring 2010 Essay Contest. EGRHS received a matching award in the amount of \$200.

Grand Valley State University recognized MS Teacher, Kevin Vance, for his dedication in coaching students in the 2010 Regional Science Olympiad Tournament.

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The Board sent communications to the EGR community regarding the upcoming May 4 School Election.

The Board sent communications to EGR families regarding the district's financial issues.

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

Ms. Sonia Nicola, Senior Class President, reported that classes were working on service projects. Student Council elections were held resulting in a tie for Senior Class President; therefore, another vote will be held. Benefit concert for Haiti will be held in May. Planning is underway for Staff Appreciation Week, as well as graduation.

Presentation:

Virtual HS – World Language Class (Pilot) – Ms. Jeanne Glowicki (Enclosure #6)

Ms. Glowicki presented on behalf of Ms. Kim Ibara on the Virtual HS – World Language Class Pilot. The definition of a hybrid classroom was explained, as well as the Three Key Components to a successful hybrid classroom, and a timeline was provided. A discussion was held with questions and comments from the Board.

First Reading of Revised Policy #8315 (Honesty) – Mrs. Stacy Trierweiler (Enclosure #7)

A discussion was held with questions and answers from the Board.

First Reading of Revised Policy #8040-R (School Admissions) – Mrs. Stacy Trierweiler (Enclosure #8)

Dr. Shubel reported that this policy has not been updated in several years. A discussion was held with questions and comments from the Board.

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 9 through 11.

Approval of Minutes of REGULAR MEETING of 03/22/2010 (Enclosure #9)

Approval of Payment of Bills for March 2010 (Enclosure #10)

Acceptance of Grants from the East Grand Rapids Schools Foundation (Enclosure #11)

Mr. Edison moved to approve items in the Consent Agenda Numbers 9 through 11. Mrs. Rabideau seconded the motion. Motion passed 7-0.

Other Action Items:

Netbook Bid – Mr. Doug Jenkins (Enclosure #12)

Mr. Philipps provided details on the Netbook Bid. Total purchase amount for the netbooks is \$91,499.52 with \$13,000 awarded through an East Grand Rapids Foundation grant. The remainder of the purchase amount will be compensated through the 2006 bond. A discussion was held with questions and answers from the Board.

Mrs. Ridenour moved to accept the Netbook Bid. Mr. Minnema seconded the motion. Motion passed 7-0.

Approval of Administrative and Non-Union Salaries 2010-2011 (Enclosure #13)

A discussion was held with questions and answers from the Board, detailing a 2% salary reduction for administrators, no step increase, and a reduction in health benefits resulting in a total reduction of 6%.

Mrs. Trierweiler moved to approve the Administrative and Non-Union Salaries. Mr. Edison seconded the motion. Motion passed 7-0.

Approval of Custodial Contract (Additional Agenda Item #13A)

Mr. Philipps reported on the collaborative efforts of administration and custodial staff and the concessions made to meet the \$350K reductions. This resulted in a two-year agreement, 15% wage reduction, and a base wage scale freeze for the 2011/12 year, health insurance adjustments, and 1.0 FTE reduction. A private company will be allowed to provide services at Woodcliff and the high school pool. A three-week furlough on a staggered basis was agreed upon by custodians as well. The agreement states that administration will not seek to outsource for the next three years.

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A discussion was held with questions and answers from the Board. Board members commended the staff on their efforts in working together and that all employees are valued members of our school district.

Mrs. Rabideau moved to approve the Custodial Contract. Mrs. Trierweiler seconded the motion. Motion passed 7-0.

Administrative Reports

Superintendent

Dr. Shubel thanked the Foundation for the grants received and announced the upcoming May 4 School Election. End of the school year special event dates were provided to the Board. Dr. Shubel recognized the schools in our district which were presented with the Green Schools Award. Dr. Shubel reported that Race to the Top-Phase 2 application will be released by the State on May 9 indicating that there appears to be no major changes from initial application requirements which were reviewed in December.

Assistant Superintendent for Instruction (Enclosure #16)

Ms. Glowicki explained transitions that take place with Young Fives/Kindergarten. Ms. Glowicki reported on the summer learning opportunities which will be offered to teachers, highlighting class opportunities and resources for staff. It was reported that federal funding is used to help defray the costs of providing classes.

Assistant Superintendent for Business

Mr. Philipps explained the renewal of the non-homestead tax levy on the ballot in the May 4 election.

Dr. Shubel commented on district finances and thanked the Board, staff, and community for the combined efforts in resolving the issues that face our district. Dr. Shubel introduced Kevin Philipps to present on the budget recommendations.

Budget Committee Recommendations (Enclosure #15)

Mr. Philipps presented a budget update and the 2010-2011 Budget Committee recommendations. Improvements to the budget projection were detailed, as well as legislative budget proposals and what actions are being taken in Lansing. Revised cuts and use of fund balance, statewide financial rankings, and Budget Committee recommendations were detailed.

Mr. Philipps recognized the Budget Committee members and thanked them for the results of their work.

Mr. Ellis clarified that a discussion would be held amongst the Board. Mr. Ellis expressed his concern with the position the State has put us in and encouraged PTA's and all members to assist with contact to legislators, as this is a structural funding crisis for public education.

A discussion was held with questions and answers from the Board.

Public Comments - Mr. Ellis explained the ground rules and then opened the floor for public comments.

Karl Mead - 1147 Pinecrest, thanked Board, administrative staff, and support staff for efforts, and commented on proposed budget recommendations.

Sara Pellegrini - 2544 Richards, commented on proposed budget recommendations.

Rick Morris - 906 Santa Barbara, City Commissioner, commented on proposed budget recommendations.

Jan Palm - 3030 Bonnell, commented on proposed budget recommendations, and thanked the Board for their efforts.

Michelle Patterson - 2046 Tenway, thanked Board and commented on proposed budget recommendations.

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Mike Webber - Custodian, thanked Administration and Board for coming to agreement for custodial staff, and commented on proposed budget recommendations.

Diana Schad - 448 Cambridge, thanked Board and commented on proposed budget recommendations.

Tony Zimmerman - 1122 Conlon, thanked Board and commented on proposed budget recommendations.

JR Pittman - 1660 Saginaw, commented on proposed budget recommendations.

Gary Schultz - 833 Gladstone, commented on proposed budget recommendations.

Courtney Moskal - 2041 Tenway, commented on proposed budget recommendations.

Kris Shannon - 2347 El Dorado, thanked Board and commented on proposed budget recommendations.

Jill Decker - 925 Bellclaire, commented on proposed budget recommendations.

Eileen Chamberlin - 535 Cambridge, commented on proposed budget recommendations.

Mary Ellen Baker - 1717 York, commented on proposed budget recommendations.

Beth Milanowski - 2640 Hall, commented on proposed budget recommendations.

Linda Sawade - Wealthy Teacher, commented on proposed budget recommendations.

Debbie Abbott - 2320 Boston, commented on proposed budget recommendations.

Anne Grobel - 2705 Boston, commented on proposed budget recommendations.

Traci Douglas - 2908 Hall, commented on proposed budget recommendations.

Board Representative Report

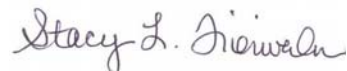
Mrs. Rabideau thanked the Legislative Committee for their efforts in educating the community on legislative issues.

Mr. Edison announced the competition of bringing the United States President to high school commencement ceremonies and encouraged our community to show their support in the voting process. A Michigan school, as well as a Colorado school where a former EGR student is an administrator, are in the running.

Adjournment

Mr. Ellis adjourned the meeting at 9:08 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.