

EAST GRAND RAPIDS PUBLIC SCHOOLS
Kent County, Michigan

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

REGULAR Meeting of the East Grand Rapids Board of Education

Woodcliff Community Board Room, Woodcliff Center,
2915 Hall SE, East Grand Rapids, MI 49506
Phone 616-235-3535

Tuesday, September 29, 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 Tuesday, September 29, 2009 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, Mrs. Julie Ridenour, Mr. Peter Ruppert, and Mr. Robert Minnema

Absent: Mrs. A. Michelle Rabideau

Administration: Dr. Sara M. Shubel, Mr. Kevin Philipps, Mrs. Wendy VanZegeren, Mr. Peter Stuursma, Mr. Larry Fisher, Mrs. Heidi Sunderhaft, and Mr. Doug Jenkins

Meeting Called to Order

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

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

Board Secretary, Mrs. Trierweiler, reported that the Board received a thank you card from Mathew Keller (BD 3rd grade) for the gift certificate to Schuler's following the birth of his daughter; a thank you card from Vikki Boersma (BD 1st grade) for the gift card to Schuler's following the birth of her daughter; and a thank you card from Page Rector (Childcare) for the book placed in the Lakeside library in memory of her mother.

Acknowledgment of Guests - None

REGULAR BOARD MEETING

September 29, 2009

Page 2

Public Comments - None

Recognition of

Student Semifinalists in the 2009 Merit Scholarship Competition - Mr. Fisher

Dr. Shubel, Mrs. Trierweiler and Mr. Fisher presented the four national merit semi finalists with certificates of recognition from the Board.

Foreign Language Award - 2009 American Council on the Teaching of Foreign Languages
Melba D. Woodruff Award

Dr. Shubel and Mr. Minnema recognized the entire World Language Department for this award. All members of the World Language Department were given certificates of recognition from the Board. Mrs. Frazier thanked the Board and administration for the commitment and vision of the ERGPS district for world language.

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

Ms. Nicola reported that the focus is on Homecoming and various committees have been formed. The theme for the homecoming parade this year is Dr. Suess. In November, the high school will be raising money for the charity - Hats On - a children's hospital. There is a new dance policy and the student council working with the Administration, went to English classes to explain the changes - good news, there were no warnings at the Healthy High dance.

EGREA President's Report - Mrs. Shelly Schram

Mrs. Schram stated that this has been the smoothest start to the school year that she can ever remember. Professional Development was great and open houses will be finished this week. She noted that there are 14 committees this school year that have teachers on them. She said she was very excited to see students and Foreign Language be recognized this evening.

Presentation/Discussion:

Facilities Update - Mr. Edison

Mr. Edison reported on the ribbon cutting for the athletic facilities - he noted that this was a great event and everything went well and the community had many positive comments. He stated that these facilities will be a great asset to the community. He thanked everyone who worked on this project. Mr. Bower stated that the punch list, except for the press box and landscaping, has been completed. A few items were not up to our expectations, the gym floor and weight room floor, so they are being worked on currently. The Contingency fund is at \$165,134 for the 2007 bond issue and there may be another \$20,000 available in general conditions funds. If Change Order #19 is approved, the final total of the contingency fund will be \$114,279 and with the addition of the \$20,000 in the general conditions fund the total would \$134,279. Mr. Edison moved to approve Change Order #19

REGULAR BOARD MEETING

September 29, 2009

Page 3

as presented in Revised Addendum 8A in the amount of \$50,855.00. Mrs. Trierweiler seconded the motion. Motion carried 6-0.

The Finance Committee and Facilities Committee are looking at three options for using any remaining contingency money: 1) it can be used to pay down the debt; 2) it can be used for other projects; or 3) the money could be transferred into the sinking fund to replace some of what was used for the bleachers. The Finance Committee and Facilities Committee will take a look at all options and make a recommendation to the Board in the near future.

Engage Update/Technology Update - Mr. Doug Jenkins, Ms. Shannon Mitchell, Ms. Winona Tinholt, Ms. Amy Marlow, Ms. Tia Carmichael, and Ms. Kim Ibara

Mr. Jenkins and Mrs. Ibara presented an update on the Engage 1:1 program. They reviewed the vision for the engage program for this year. There are three elementary school teachers (1 in each building) trying out this program, as well as one teacher each from the Middle School and the High School. They reported on safety considerations i.e., ePals - free and strong filter email service for students; Websense, an internet filter; and an on-line tool with advertisements. They described the learning process of this tool and how teachers use it with learning. They then described the program moving forward and future next steps beyond the pilots and Professional Development days for staff. Mr. Jenkins and Mrs. Ibara got the Board members to log into Today'sMeet and guided them through some of the features. There was discussion and questions from the Board regarding the Engage 1:1.

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 SPECIAL MEETING of 8/24/09 (Enclosure #10)

Approval of Minutes of REGULAR MEETING of 8/24/09 (Enclosure #11)

Approval of Payment of Bills for August 2009 (Enclosure #12)

Mrs. Ridenour moved to approve Consent Agenda items #10-12. Mrs. Trierweiler seconded the motion. Motion passed 6-0.

Other Action Items:

Appoint Delegate Representatives to MASB Fall Conference Delegate Assembly
(Enclosure #13)

REGULAR BOARD MEETING

September 29, 2009

Page 4

Background: The Michigan Association of School Boards' 2009 Delegate Assembly is meeting for the annual 2009 Fall Conference at the Lansing Center in Lansing on Thursday, October 22, 2009. Three delegates may be appointed to represent the East Grand Rapids Board of Education.

Mr. Edison stated he would be willing to attend the delegate assembly on October 22, 2009. Mr. Ellis moved to appoint Mr. Edison as delegate to the MASB 2009 Delegate Assembly. Mrs. Trierweiler seconded the motion. Motion passed 6-0.

Administrative Reports:

Superintendent

Dr. Shubel stated it has been a smooth beginning to the school year and thanked the administrators for all of their work.

Heart of Gold event - Mr. Stuursma briefly described this event which will raise funds for the Helen DeVos Children's Hospital. The football game vs. Grand Rapids Christian takes place this Friday evening. The Board thanked Mr. Stuursma for his work on this.

Dr. Shubel asked the Board to review the curriculum brochure for more in depth information.

Assistant Superintendent for Business

State Budget Update - Mr. Philipps reported there is no state budget yet, tomorrow is the last day of state fiscal year. No official word on what funding will be - lots of rumors are out there. Once we know anything, Mr. Philipps will get word to the Board.

Student Enrollment Update - Mr. Philipps stated that official count day is tomorrow. Current headcount is 3,012 and at the end of last school year we were at 2,980. We are seeing increases pretty much across all grade levels.

Board Representative Report

Mrs. Trierweiler gave a brief report of the work of Youth Development. She stated that there is a lot happening this year in Youth development - senior retreat had the highest number of attendees ever! There is the mentoring of freshmen by upper classmen. Healthy High was held this past weekend with a large number in attendance and everything went very smoothly.

Adjournment

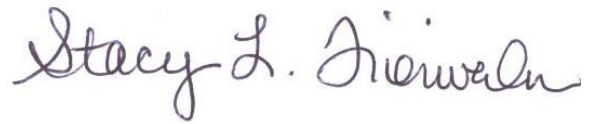
Mr. Ellis adjourned the meeting at 8:18 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

REGULAR BOARD MEETING

September 29, 2009

Page 5

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Stacy L. Trierweiler".

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 - 9/30/09