

## **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**

Community Board Room at the James E. Morse Administration Center at Woodcliff  
2915 Hall Street SE, East Grand Rapids, MI 49506

**Monday, October 25, 2010**

## **MINUTES**

The **REGULAR MEETING** of the East Grand Rapids Public Schools Board of Education, Kent County, Michigan, was held on Monday, October 25, 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, Ms. Stacy Trierweiler, Ms. A. Michelle Rabideau  
Mr. Peter Ruppert, and Mr. Robert Minnema

Absent: Mrs. Julie Ridenour and Mr. Steve Edison

Administration: Dr. Sara M. Shubel, Ms. Jeanne Glowicki, Mr. Kevin Philipps, Mr. Doug Jenkins, Ms. Kathy Wisniewski, Ms. Jenny Fee, Mr. Peter Stuursma, Ms. Caroline Breault-Cannon,  
Ms. Heidi Sunderhaft, Ms. Linda Kehm

#### Meeting Called to Order

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

Mr. Ellis announced that the Board has gone paperless in the past year, and that he and Dr. Shubel are trying iPads at board meetings.

Acknowledgment of Guests – None.

#### Public Comments

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

Mr. Edison arrived at 7:06 p.m.

Brenda Pratt – 1543 Edgewood, commented on the negative impact of the Breton Downs Playground Initiative.

Bryan Bolea – 1634 Amberley Court, commented on the positive impact of the Breton Downs Playground Initiative.

Shelli Whallon – 2500 Elmwood, commented on the negative impact of the Breton Downs Playground Initiative.

Shar Karsten – 4<sup>th</sup> grade teacher at Breton Downs commented on the positive impact of the Breton Downs Playground Initiative on behalf of School Climate Committee and teachers at Breton Downs.

Lisa Lyman – 1552 Sherwood, commented on the negative impact of the Breton Downs Playground Initiative.

Maria Allen – 2457 Arundel, commented on the positive impact of the Breton Downs Playground Initiative.

Marie Brinks – 2703 Maplewood, commented on the positive impact of the Breton Downs Playground Initiative.

Paula Lancaster – 2544 Boston, commented on the positive impact of the Breton Downs Playground Initiative.

Sarah Lowen – 233 Wellington, commented on the positive impact of the Breton Downs Playground Initiative.

Julie Neuhaus – 1771 Whitfield, commented on Winter Break.

Eleanor Lowen – 233 Wellington, commented on the positive impact of the Breton Downs Playground Initiative.

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

Board Secretary, Ms. Trierweiler, reported that the Board received communication from:

Bruce Alan Block	Kathy Nelson
Douglas Vermeulen	Brenda Pratt
Tom Ainsworth	Barbara Ludlow

High School Student Council President's Report

Mr. Kyle Seasily, Senior Class President, reported that Student Council raised \$100 for *Hearts of Gold*. Homecoming week activities and dance concluded with 300 tickets sold this year, with more seniors at the dance. Students are working on preparations for the Holiday Arts & Craft Show.

**PRESENTATION / DISCUSSION**

Student Semifinalists in the 2010 Merit Scholarship Competition (Enclosure #6)

Mr. Fisher reported on the 2010 Merit Scholarship Competition, explaining that this is a test that is taken in the students' junior year. The following EGR students submitted applications along with 14-15,000 applicants and scored in the top half of 1% of students in the nation: Henry Schneider, Ike Timkovich, and Laura Job were honored at tonight's board meeting.

First Reading of Revised Policy #7642 (Alternative Credit Options) (Enclosure #7)

Ms. Fee introduced the recommended changes in Policy #7642. A discussion was held with questions and answers 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 items in the Consent Agenda, Numbers 8 through 10.

Approval of Minutes of REGULAR MEETING of 08/31/2010 (Enclosure #8)

Approval of Payment of Bills for August 2010 (Enclosure #9)

Approval of Payment of Bills for September (Enclosure #10)

Mr. Edison moved to approve Consent Agenda Items 8 through 10. Ms. Trierweiler seconded the motion. Motion passed 6-0.

**OTHER ACTION ITEMS**

None.

**ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS**

Superintendent

Student Enrollment Update – Dr. Shubel reported that enrollment numbers remained stable from last year. Fall pupil count for 2010 was 3,017; last year's count was 3,012. The blended count for 2010 was 2,999; last year's count was 2,098. The budgeted number of students was 2,965. Administration is pleased with our student numbers.

Mr. Ellis commended staff for their efforts in balancing the class sizes and also reported on favorable enrollment numbers.

Dr. Shubel announced that a New Teacher DVD is available on the EGR website and encouraged parents to view our newest additions to the teaching staff.

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Assistant Superintendent of Business

State Funding - Mr. Philipps reported on the Federal EduJobs bill, the Retirement Contribution Rate, and State Tax Collections. A discussion was held with questions and answers from the Board.

Mr. Philipps reported that the high school track resurfacing is complete.

Mr. Philipps reported on the remaining bond funds - \$400K remaining. In November, administration will present a proposal to spend down these funds. Items that have been suggested include science and instructional equipment needs, technology needs, and boiler needs.

Assistant Superintendent of Instruction

Curriculum Updates - Ms. Glowicki commended administrators on the success of the two Professional Development days at the beginning of the school year. Ms. Glowicki also reported on the number of applicants for the Hybrid World Language course where a lottery draw was necessary to assign students to these classes. She also commented on the online resources, Math and Science Implementation with full implementation at elementary. Ms. Glowicki reported on the Special Education Staff Retreat where 25 staff members were together and exchanged exciting ideas and changes to implement. Ms. Glowicki reported on Common Core and Standards, which 30 states have adopted.

Board of Education Members' Report

Ms. Trierweiler reported that Senior Retreat was a success, as well as Healthy High.

Mr. Edison reported that the Foundation's grant cycle is in November, with a large amount of funds to be distributed to schools. Mr. Edison announced that the Distinguished Alumni and Community Service Awards Dinner will take place on November 15, 2010.

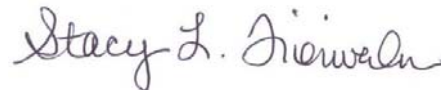
Dr. Shubel reported that board members received an invitation to Lakeside's ROAR 2010 event. Beth Milanowski, Lakeside PTA President, welcomed all board members to attend the auction on November 6, 2010.

**ADJOURNMENT**

Mr. Ellis announced that the next Board of Education meeting will be held on November 22, 2010.

Mr. Ellis adjourned the meeting at 8:00 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 St. SE, East Grand Rapids, MI 49506. The phone number is 235-3535.

\*\* 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.

jmm 10/26/2010