

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, April 18, 2011

MINUTES

The **REGULAR MEETING** of the East Grand Rapids Public Schools Board of Education, Kent County, Michigan, was held on Monday, April 18, 2011, in the Community Board Room of the James E. Morse Administration Center at Woodcliff, 2915 Hall Street, SE, East Grand Rapids, MI 49506.

BOARD OF EDUCATION

Present: Brian Ellis, Steve Edison, Stacy Trierweiler, Michelle Rabideau, Peter Ruppert

Absent: Robert Minnema and Julie Ridenour

Administration: Dr. Sara Magaña Shubel, Jenny Fee, Peter Stuursma, Caroline Breault-Cannon, Heidi Sunderhaft, Linda Kehm

Meeting Called to Order

President Ellis called the meeting to order at 7:01 p.m.

Acknowledgment of Guests – None

Public Comments – None

Board Secretary's Report: Communications to and from the Board – Stacy Trierweiler

The Board received:

- a thank you from Kelly Froehlich for the Schuler gift card on the birth of her daughter, Harper
- a thank you from Bill Bier for the Schuler gift card on the birth of his daughter, Kathryn Grace
- communication from Jamie Billo on Schools of Choice
- communication from Bonnie Wright on budget concerns
- communication from Sarah Kautzmann, EGR high school senior, on Michigan Merit Exam
- communication from Claudia Bajema on the Kent Intermediate School District Board of Education election
- communication related to the audit of the financial statements of East Grand Rapids Public Schools from Hungerford, Aldrin, Nichols, & Carter, PC in accordance with Statement on Auditing Standards

The Board sent communications to the EGR Community and Michigan Legislators on the Governor's budget proposal.

The 2011 Spring Sports Schedule was sent to neighboring community member, Linda Carrington.

The Board received communications in response to the Board's legislative letters from the following:

Dan Bogo	Rep. David Rutledge	Rep. Deb Shaughnessy
Pamela MacDougal	Rep. Aric Nesbitt	Rep. Douglas Geiss
Ed Roubal	Rep. Lisa Posthumus Lyons	Rep. Thomas Stallworth
Marcie Lewis	Max Eerdmans	Colin Slater
Kris Shannon		

High School Student Council President's Report - None

PRESENTATION / DISCUSSION

Recognition of Emily Kukawka

Dr. Shubel and high school principal, Jenny Fee, recognized EGR high school senior, Emily Kukawka, who earned national recognition in The Scholastic Art & Writing Awards of 2011, presented by the Alliance for Young Artists & Writers. Emily has been invited to a two-day National Celebration in New York City where she will be honored at Carnegie Hall, and her work will be displayed.

Recognition of Lakeside Third Grade Math Team

Dr. Shubel and Lakeside principal, Linda Kehm recognized Lakeside third grade teachers, Scott Mitton and Mark Pullen, and Lakeside's 3rd grade math team for winning the National Online Math League Championship. Mr. Pullen shared the history of Lakeside winning the National Online Math League Championship for the fifth time. Three of the students had perfect scores individually throughout the school year and are recognized as individual national champions: Ben Collins, Declan Lee, and Josh Pullen. The Board congratulated the math team on their championship and presented certificates of recognition.

Proposed Middle School Course: Pre-Algebra

Jeanne Glowicki introduced middle school principal, Peter Stuursma, and middle school math teachers, Dale Streeter and Matt Fouch, who presented on the pre-algebra course. Details of the course were presented, as well as a history of the math curriculum at the middle school, reporting that it is difficult to keep students motivated in Algebra knowing that they will retake the course in high school. The concept of Pre-Algebra was brought to the administration to provide a course to 8th grade students in a co-taught Algebra class. Dale provided the rationale for the recommendation of this course. Matt presented the criteria-based Math Course Selections. A Pre-Algebra class is proposed at the 8th grade for students versus a Math Lab offering. Pre-Algebra students would continue on to Algebra as freshman. Benefits of this course and qualifications for the course were described, as well as the course framework. Data collection was presented.

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

First Reading of Revised Policy #8320 (Student Use of Electronic Communication Devices)

Member Rabideau and high school principal, Jenny Fee, provided an explanation of the proposed revisions to Policy #8320, as requested by Student Council. With the revised policy, students would be allowed to use cell phones during lunch periods in the high school cafeteria. Teachers would continue to use electronic devices within the classroom for educational purposes. Students would be allowed to use a full keyboard device during open campus lunch, as well as media center and class time under the discretion of the teacher.

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

First Reading of Revised Policy #4510 (Computer Network)

Doug Jenkins, Director of Technology, presented the proposed revisions of Policy #4510, which would allow a public wireless network to be utilized in the administration building and district buildings after school hours, as well as during the school day determined on an a case by case basis.

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 11 through 12.

Approval of Minutes of REGULAR MEETING of 3/14/2011 (Enclosure #11)

Approval of Payment of Bills for March 2011 (Enclosure #12)

Member Edison moved to approve Consent Agenda Items 11 through 12. Member Rabideau seconded the motion. Motion passed 5-0.

OTHER ACTION ITEMS

Resolution of Kent ISD School Board Election

President Ellis provided background information regarding the Kent ISD School Board Election.

President Ellis moved to elect Member Edison as a voting delegate and Member Rabideau as alternate delegate as representatives of this Board for the electoral body, which body will elect two candidates to the vacancies on the Kent ISD School Board on Monday, June 6, 2011.

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

Motion passed 5-0.

ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS

Superintendent

Dr. Shubel announced the date of the EGR School Board Candidate Forum to be held on Tuesday, April 19, 7:00 p.m. at Little Auditorium in the high school, as well as the upcoming School Board Election on Tuesday, May 3, 2011.

Dr. Shubel shared several of the end-of-year events and celebrations that will be taking place in our school buildings and invited board members to attend.

Assistant Superintendent of Business

Kevin Philipps reported on the governor's budget proposal. Administration has been working on items for the Budget Process. A prioritized list of budget recommendations will be presented at the Budget Workshop on Tuesday, April 26, 2011, from 5:00-6:00 p.m.

President Ellis announced the Superintendent's End-of-Year Evaluation which will be held on Tuesday, April 26, 2011 at 6:00 p.m.

Assistant Superintendent of Instruction

Jeanne Glowicki announced the Meet & Greet for incoming Y5-K parents on May 2, 2011 at the high school Performing Arts Center, 9:30 a.m. and 7:00 p.m.

Board of Education Members' Report

Member Edison announced that he will be starting new employment with Law Weathers in Grand Rapids.

Member Trierweiler congratulated our community on their participation in the Autism Society of Kent County 4th Annual Walk.

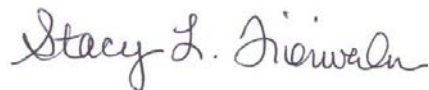
Member Ruppert is hosting an educational film, *Race to Nowhere*, sponsored by American Education Group, to be held on May 3, 2011, 7:00 p.m. at Celebration Cinema North, regarding high pressure among teens. Grand Rapids community members will serve on a discussion panel, including Dr. Shubel. Further information can be found at rtncelebrationcinemanorth.eventbrite.com.

President Ellis recognized Lucy Lafleur, Winnie Brinks, Elizabeth Lykins, and others for their efforts while serving on the EGRPS Legislative Committee.

ADJOURNMENT

President Ellis adjourned the meeting at 7:59 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.