

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, June 4, 2012

MINUTES

The **REGULAR MEETING** of the East Grand Rapids Public Schools Board of Education, Kent County, Michigan, was held on Monday, June 4, 2012, 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, Bob Minnema, Steve Edison, Michelle Rabideau, Peter Ruppert

Absent: Beth Milanowski, Susan Levine

Administration: Dr. Sara Magaña Shubel, Jeanne Glowicki, Kevin Philipps, Kathy Wisniewski, Doug Jenkins, Jenny Fee, Craig Weigel, Lori Johnston, Peter Stuursma

Meeting Called to Order

President Ellis called the meeting to order at 5:35 p.m.

Acknowledgment of Guests – None

Board Secretary's Report: Communications to and from the Board – Steve Edison

- The Board received communication from the following people on proposed budget reductions: Elaine Headley, Jack Kuhatschek, and Sheryl Lee
- The Board received a Thank You from Jenny Fee for the gift received during Staff Appreciation week.
- The Board received communication from Janice Yates on teacher evaluation effectiveness ratings.
- The Board received a notice from Varnum on the amended petition of the Mark Peters Trust v. City of East Grand Rapids assessment appeal.

Beth Milanowski arrived at 5:36 p.m.

EGREA President's Report

Nancy McSkimming reported on the bittersweet feelings that teachers have this time of year with the school year coming to an end. She indicated that teachers see themselves as part of the shared sacrifice relating to budget reductions and appreciate the Board's recognition of the teaching staff and their commitment to educating our students.

Susan Levine arrived at 5:38 p.m.

PRESENTATION / DISCUSSION

First Reading of Revised Policy #4510-Computer Network (Enclosure #5)

Doug Jenkins provided background information on the new requirements of the Children's Internet Protection Act (CIPA). The language provided by NEOLA and MASB were incorporated into Policy #4510 to meet the requirements.

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

First Reading of Revised Policy #8331-Bullying (Enclosure #6)

Dr. Shubel provided background information on the new law requiring all districts to adopt and/or revise a bullying policy. EGRPS has had a bullying policy in place for many years; however, the proposed revisions as detailed in Enclosure #6 comply with Public Act 241 of 2011. The language provided by NEOLA and MASB were incorporated into Policy #8331 to meet the requirements for the bullying policy as described in Public Act 241.

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 item in the Consent Agenda, Numbers 7-11.

Approval of Minutes of REGULAR MEETING of 5/21/2012 (Enclosure #7)

Approval of Proposed Science 6-12 Integration of Common Core (Enclosure #8)

Approval of Proposed ELA K-12 Phase II (Enclosure #9)

Second Reading and Approval of Revised Policy #1020 – Election of Board Members and School Elections (Enclosure #10)

Second Reading and Approval of Revised Policy #1100 – Organizational Meeting and Annual Authorizations (Enclosure #11)

Member Milanowski moved to approve Consent Agenda Items 7-11. Member Edison seconded the motion. Motion passed 7-0.

OTHER ACTION ITEMS

Budget Hearing: 2012-2013 General Fund Budget – Enclosure #12

President Ellis explained the process of the Budget Hearing, involving a discussion to be held among the Board with no action to be taken this evening.

Kevin Philipps, Assistant Superintendent of Business, provided an overview of the budget hearing process, focusing on the main aspects of how the District attempts to allocate funds to fulfill Strategic Plan goals. The 2011-2012 Final Amended Budget (General Fund proposal) was detailed, as well as Budget Variances. Revenues and expenses were reviewed as well as the 2012-2013 Budget Projection. Updates from the School Aid Budget/Legislation were explained showing the financial impacts for EGRPS. Philipps reported on other budget variables including taxable values and an all day/every day kindergarten program. The 2012-2013 Proposed Budget with recommended reductions was detailed. Philipps presented trends, fund balance history, and School Aid Fund history. Bulletin 1014 was described as the state report that ranks the revenue and expenses of all public and charter school districts. Philipps presented the long-term budget forecast including long-term budget assumptions of revenues and expenses including a variance from year to year. Long-term assumptions were described to maintain a sustainable budget. The potential forecast of per pupil funding for the next five years was presented. Philipps reported on the Sinking Fund and Debt Retirement Fund budgets. The budget presentation was summarized, indicating that considerable progress has been made to eliminate the \$3.3 million deficit which was projected in the fall without major disruption to student programs.

President Ellis thanked Kevin Philipps and the EGRPS administration for their expertise and organization in planning for the budget recommendations.

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

President Ellis proceeded to public comments.

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

Julie Neuhaus - 1771 Whitfield, commented on the budget hearing recommendations.

Marie Rossi - 2006 Lake Drive, commented on district revenue options.

Mark Hessler - 2223 Estelle, commented on the statewide disparity of funding for school districts in Michigan.

Tamara Christians - 1111 Idema, commented on legislative issues, and the need to continue the EGR Now initiative.

Tom Baranoski-1440 Lenox, commented on proposed budget reductions impacting the wrestling program.

Claudine Duncan - 1621 Amberley Ct, commented on the need to continue the EGR Now initiative.

Board of Education Discussion

The Board entered into a budget discussion and acknowledged the efforts of the community, administration, and board efforts while working through the budget process. Although revisions in budget recommendations have been made, we are still facing future budget challenges. President Ellis clarified that the budget process is not finalized in that the Board will continue to deliberate and work toward budget adoption on June 11, 2012.

ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS

Superintendent

Dr. Shubel reported that we are in the final week of school for students and that there is incredible energy and excitement in all of the buildings.

Assistant Superintendent of Business

None.

Assistant Superintendent of Instruction

None.

Board of Education Members' Report

Member Ruppert inquired about the second administration of the MAP assessments. Jeanne Glowicki reported that the testing went well, and even smoother plans are in place for next year. The results are expected to be provided to parents in the next 1-1/2 weeks.

Member Rabideau provided an update on the EGR Now campaign indicating that the EGR Schools Foundation has committed to working over the summer on the long-term sustainability of the endowment and possible future EGR Now initiatives.

Member Edison thanked the high school administration for holding a fantastic graduation ceremony for our students and families. He also reported that the Finance Committee recently met with our auditors who expressed high praise to the business office staff in the preliminary phase of the audit.

President Ellis announced the next board meeting to be held on Monday, June 11, 6:00 p.m., in the Community Board Room.

ADJOURNMENT

President Ellis adjourned the meeting at 7:39 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Stephen W. Edison, 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.