

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, September 24, 2012

MINUTES

The **REGULAR MEETING** of the East Grand Rapids Public Schools Board of Education, Kent County, Michigan, was held on Monday, September 24, 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, Michelle Rabideau, Peter Ruppert, Beth Milanowski, Susan Levine

Absent: Steve Edison

Administration: Dr. Sara Magaña Shubel, Kevin Philipps, Kathy Wisniewski, Doug Jenkins, Jenny Fee, Lori Johnston, Peter Stuursma, Caroline Breault-Cannon, Anthony Morey

Meeting Called to Order

President Ellis called the meeting to order at 6:02 p.m.

Appoint Secretary Pro-Tem

President Ellis reported that Steve Edison, Board Secretary, is absent this evening due to recovering from surgery, and Susan Levine was appointed Secretary Pro-Tem without objection.

Acknowledgment of Guests – None

Public Comments – None

Board Secretary's Report: Communications to and from the Board – Susan Levine, Secretary Pro-Tem

- The Board received a Thank You from Mary Crook, Lavina Wynalda, and Sharlene Karsten for the personalized clock on their retirement.
- The Board received communication from Jane Heinzmann on athletics.

High School Student Council President's Report

Karl Schneider, Senior Class President, reported that the Student Council is planning for Homecoming activities. This year's theme for parade floats is the Olympics. Many students are helping out with the Hearts of Gold fundraising efforts. Karl provided an update on the success of Healthy High, and this event was well organized and well attended.

PRESENTATION / DISCUSSION

Recognition of Girls Lacrosse 2012 MHSAA Division 2 State Championship

President Ellis welcomed Tim Johnston as the new High School Athletic Director, who recognized the girls' lacrosse team on their state championship. Johnston, along with Jenny Fee, High School Principal, presented certificates of recognition to the players and coaches on behalf of the board. The team finished the season with an overall record of 28-0 and were ranked 7th in the entire Midwest by United States Lacrosse Magazine. The JV team also won the JV state championship. This is the 120th state championship trophy in athletics for East Grand Rapids Public Schools.

Delegate Representatives to MASB Fall Conference Delegate Assembly – President Ellis (Enclosure #7)

The Michigan Association of School Boards' 2012 Delegate Assembly is meeting for the annual 2012 Fall Conference at the Detroit Marriott/Renaissance Center on November 8, 2012. Three delegates may be appointed to represent the East Grand Rapids Board of Education. Mr. Ellis stated that the Board will vote at the October 22 board meeting for any interested board members as delegates.

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 8-13.

Approval of Minutes of REGULAR Meeting of 6/11/2012 (Enclosure #8)

Approval of Minutes of SPECIAL Meeting of 7/19/2012 (Enclosure #9)

Approval of Minutes of SPECIAL Meeting of 8/20/2012 (Enclosure #10)

Approval of Payment of Bills for June, July, and August 2012 (Enclosure #11)

Approval of Overnight Student Activities (Enclosure #12)

In accordance with Board of Education Policy #7490, the district has various trips and overnight athletic and student activities as outlined in Enclosure #12 for approval by the Board.

Approval of High School Foreign Exchange Student (Enclosure #13)

The High School Administration recommends that foreign exchange student, Wencke Hartmann, from Germany, be approved for enrollment at East Grand Rapids High School during the 2012-2013 school year.

Member Milanowski moved to approve Consent Agenda Items 8-13. Member Minnema seconded the motion. Motion passed 6-0.

OTHER ACTION ITEMS

Approval of Proposed Alternative Revenue Development LLC Contract (Enclosure #14)

The KISD has been working with a firm by the name of Alternative Revenue Development LLC to raise revenue for Kent County local districts through the use of an advertising banner at the top of local school district websites. Administration has reviewed the contract and presented the contract to the Finance Committee. Kevin Philipps provided details of this proposal.

Member Rabideau moved to approve the contract with Alternative Revenue Development LLC as recommended by the Finance Committee and Superintendent as presented. Member Minnema seconded the motion. A discussion was held among the Board. Motion passed 6-0.

Approval of Weiming Educational Group Partnership (Enclosure #15)

The KISD desires to partner with Weiming Educational Group to establish a partnership that will facilitate enrollment of Chinese high school students in high schools within Kent Intermediate School District. Dr. Shubel provided details of this proposed partnership.

Member Minnema moved to approve the partnership between Weiming Educational Group and Kent Intermediate School District as presented. Member Milanowski seconded the motion. A discussion was held among the Board. Motion passed 6-0.

Approval of a 1-Year Contract with the East Grand Rapids Education Association (EGREA) (Enclosure #16)

The East Grand Rapids Education Association (EGREA) and the administration have negotiated a 1-year agreement.

Kevin Philipps reported on details of the 1-Year Contract, which includes no increase to the wage scale, no step increase, and changes to medical and dental insurance. A one-time, 1% off schedule payment will be made to the teachers from the savings realized from retirements over the summer. Philipps commended the Teacher Association on their professionalism throughout the negotiation process. Administration feels this is a very fair contract for the district and the teachers. In relation to the budget that was adopted in June, the changes to medical and dental insurance will lower expenses by \$175,000, and the summer retirements less the 1% off-schedule payment will decrease expenses \$160,000, for an overall budget improvement of \$335,000.

Member Levine moved to approve the 1-Year Contract with the East Grand Rapids Education Association (EGREA) upon the recommendation of the Superintendent. Member Ruppert seconded the motion. A discussion was among the Board. Motion passed 6-0.

President Ellis commented on the tremendous show of support from our teachers to be a part of the shared solution to the budgetary environment that public schools are in so that we can move forward as a district.

Member Levine commented on the time and effort put into the negotiations process and thanked administration and teachers.

Member Milanowski commented on the shared efforts through EGR Now campaign and the negotiations process which has allowed us to maintain our reserves in the district and thanked everyone for their efforts.

Approval of a 1-Year Contract with the East Grand Rapids Association of Support Staff Employees (EGRASE) (Enclosure #17)

The East Grand Rapids Association of Support Staff Employees (EGRASE) and the administration have negotiated a 1-year agreement.

Kevin Philipps reported on details of the 1-Year Contract and commended the support staff for their professionalism and thoughtful discussions throughout the negotiations process. Similar to the teacher contract, the support staff contract will include no increase to the wage scale, no step increase, and changes to medical and dental insurance. The new contract will also include a one-time, 1% payment for all employee groups.

Member Milanowski moved to approve the 1-Year Contract with the East Grand Rapids Association of Support Staff Employees (EGRASE) upon the recommendation of the Superintendent. Member Minnema seconded the motion. A discussion was held among the Board. Motion passed 6-0.

Member Minnema thanked the support staff association for their professionalism and efforts.

Approval of Administrative and Non-Union Salaries 2012-2013 (Enclosure #18)

The Personnel Committee is recommending contract and salary provisions for Administrative and Non-Union personnel per Enclosure #18.

Member Minnema moved to approve the contract and salary provisions for Administrative and Non-Union personnel as recommended by the Personnel Committee in Enclosure #18. Member Levine seconded the motion. Motion passed 6-0.

Approval of Contract and Salary Provisions for the Superintendent for 2012-2013 (Enclosure #19)

The Personnel Committee is recommending contract and salary provisions for the Superintendent per Enclosure #19. President Ellis commended Dr. Shubel on her high level of leadership. Dr. Shubel's salary also reflects no salary increase. Similar to the teacher and support staff agreements, she will receive a one-time, 1% payment as recognition of the high caliber of work performed.

Member Ellis moved to approve the contract and salary provisions for the Superintendent as recommended by the Personnel Committee in Enclosure #19. Member Minnema seconded the motion. A discussion was held among the Board. Motion passed 6-0.

Member Rabideau recognized the board's appreciation of Dr. Shubel and her work performance in the district.

Member Ellis commented that we continue to deal with the lack of public education funding and is hopeful that things will improve for the future of public education.

Approval of Superintendent Goals for 2012-2013 (Enclosure #20)

The Superintendent Goals for 2012-2013 are presented.

Member Milanowski moved to approve the Superintendent's Goals for 2012-2013 per Enclosure #20. Member Levine seconded the motion. A discussion was held among the Board. Motion passed 6-0.

Approval of a School Bond Loan Resolution (Enclosure #21)

The district borrows annually from the School Bond Loan Program to assist in making our debt retirement payments. The application for the 2012-2013 borrowing needs to be approved by the full Board.

Kevin Philipps provided details of the School Bond Loan Resolution.

Member Levine moved to approve the School Bond Loan Resolution authorizing the district to borrow funds from the Michigan School Bond Loan Program as presented. Member Milanowski seconded the motion. A discussion was held with questions and answers from the Board. Motion passed 6-0.

ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS

Superintendent

- Dr. Shubel reported on the smooth Opening of School. She has had an opportunity to meet with some of the PTA groups already. All Day Kindergarten has also gone smoothly.
- Dr. Shubel announced that nine new teachers were hired in the district over the summer.
- Dr. Shubel provided an enrollment update: 3009 students in the district.
- Dr. Shubel and Jenny Fee presented the Engage 1:1 video which provided an update on the Engage 1:1 program and how things are going thus far.

Assistant Superintendent of Business

- None

Assistant Superintendent of Instruction

- None

Board of Education Members' Report

- Member Rabideau provided an update through the EGRLYD and reported on the success of Healthy High and Senior Retreat with over 90% of seniors participating in these events. EGRLYD continues to offer the programs as promised, and Rabideau thanked all of the volunteers and parents in community who made it possible.
- Member Rabideau provided feedback on the EGR Now campaign, with suggested continuation of EGR *Now What?* and what that will look like and how we can continue to build upon the endowment, as we do not want to move away from these ideas. More information will be communicated on this topic. She also reminded everyone that November 12 is the Community Service and Distinguished Alumni Dinner, which is for the whole community, not just alumni.
- President Ellis reminded everyone of the November 6 election. East Grand Rapids Schools has a couple of issues on the ballot. One item is the election of school board candidates with Susan Levine running unopposed, as well as four candidates running for two open positions. These four candidates are: Mark Hessler, Michelle Rabideau, Peter Ruppert, and Elizabeth Welch Lykins. The second item on the ballot relates to the Operating Millage Renewal. This is a non-homestead levy renewal. If this passes, our funding remains consistent with the current year. If it fails, the district would lose \$1.0 million that would impact our programs.

President Ellis announced the next meeting to be held on Monday, October 22, 2012, 6:00 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT

President Ellis adjourned the meeting at 7:05 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Susan Levine, Secretary Pro-Tem
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 09/25/2012