

## 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

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

Monday, February 24, 2014

### MINUTES

The **REGULAR MEETING** of the East Grand Rapids Public Schools Board of Education, Kent County, Michigan, was held on Monday, February 24, 2014, 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: Michelle Rabideau, Steve Edison, Beth Milanowski, Susan Levine, Elizabeth Welch Lykins, Bob Wolford, Natalie Bernecker

Absent: None

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

#### Meeting Called to Order

President Rabideau called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

Acknowledgment of Guests – Jenny Fee, High School Principal, announced that her mother, Ms. Judy Frey, was in attendance. Ms. Frey is a former mayor of East Grand Rapids and a co-founder of the EGR Schools Foundation.

Public Comments – None

#### Board Secretary's Report: Communications to and from the Board – Beth Milanowski

- The Board received communication from Bob Krapohl on high school rankings in the state.
- The Board received communication from Rachel Emery in support of the K-12 Spanish program at EGRPS.
- The Board received a Thank You from Kristin Griffith, 5<sup>th</sup> grade teacher at Wealthy, for the Schuler gift card on the birth of her daughter, Charlotte Rose.
- The Board received a Thank You from Brandon Oldenbroek, middle and high school teacher, for the Schuler gift card on the birth of his daughter, Maeve Elizabeth.

#### High School Student Council President's Report

Sally Marsh, Senior Class President, reported on Kabookie Week where students commemorate Jimmy Gerken and his legacy. An assembly took place which incorporated the *Be Nice* theme with a mental health emphasis. Several high school students shared personal stories, as well as guest speaker, Christian Trost. A new wall has been placed in the high school displaying Kabookie messages.

### **PRESENTATION / DISCUSSION**

#### Recognition of *We the People* State Championship

Dr. Shubel and Jenny Fee, High School Principal, commended Janice Yates as coach of the *We The People* team; Alex Constantelos, assistant coach; student coaches, and students who worked so hard to compete in the state level competition and recognized them for their accomplishments in winning the State Championship. Mrs. Yates announced that several fund raising events are taking place to send the team to the National Competition in Washington, D.C.

#### Proposed Class: Interior Home Design (Enclosure #7)

Jeanne Glowicki, Assistant Superintendent of Instruction, provided an overview of the proposed Interior Home Design class. Patrick Reed, high school industrial technology teacher, shared details of the design elements of the class, combining traditional art with the technical elements of Drafting and Design. He reported that no new funds are needed to support the class. Glowicki shared that the district will seek board approval at the March 24 board meeting to proceed with the Interior Home Design class for the 2014-2015 school year. Dr. Shubel thanked the EGR Schools Foundation for their contributions to the industrial arts program through grants. A discussion was held among the board.

High School Report (Enclosure #8)

Jenny Fee and Lori Johnston, Director of Guidance, presented the new design of the 2013 High School Report, which is a website created to build upon year-to-year. Fee shared a history of EGRHS student performance showing student growth in assessments.

Johnston reported on guidance services including Academic Counseling, Assessment Coordination, Honors and Recognitions, Post-Secondary Planning, Support Services, Interventions, and Transition Services. She reported statistics on college applications and acceptance numbers, post secondary plans, ACT scores indicating college readiness, as well as a comparison of like districts, and ACT vs. SAT comparisons and explanations. Historical data was also presented. Advanced placement testing and courses were detailed, the number of students who take the tests, as well as overall results. Postsecondary enrollment statistics were also provided. A discussion was held among 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 9 through 10.

Approval of Minutes of REGULAR Meeting of 1/27/2014 (Enclosure #9)

Approval of Payment of Bills – January 2014 (Enclosure #10)

Member Edison moved to approve Consent Agenda Items 9-10. Member Milanowski seconded the motion. Motion passed 7-0.

**OTHER ACTION ITEMS**

Approval of International Baccalaureate – Jeanne Glowicki (Enclosure 11)

Background: An overview of the process the district has gone through in researching the International Baccalaureate (IB) program was presented at the January 27, 2014, board meeting. Approval from the board is requested for continued support of the IB application process.

Recommendation: Motion to approve the submission of the International Baccalaureate (IB) application for East Grand Rapids Public Schools.

Dr. Shubel thanked the IB committee for their work on the IB research and application process. Heather McKinney and Janice Yates, high school teachers, were in the audience this evening, and Dr. Shubel recognized them for their work on the committee.

Member Edison moved to approve the submission of the International Baccalaureate (IB) application. Member Levine seconded the motion. Motion passed 7-0.

Approval of 2014-2017 Strategic Plan (Enclosure #12)

Background: An in-depth overview and update on the strategic planning processes was presented at the January 13, 2014, board meeting.

Recommendation: Motion to approve the 2014-2017 Strategic Plan for East Grand Rapids Public Schools.

Member Wolford moved to approve the 2014-2017 Strategic Plan for East Grand Rapids Public Schools. Member Bernecker seconded the motion. Motion passed 7-0.

Michigan Law on Conflict of Interest (PA 317 of 1968 and PA 145 of 1997)

President Rabideau reminded board members if they have a conflict of interest on any item on the board agenda notice must be given ahead of time to the board president or superintendent. A motion is not required.

Annual Election Approval (Enclosure #14)

Background: The Administration requests approval by the Board of Education of a resolution authorizing the ballot issues on the May 6, 2014, regular election as listed in Enclosure #14.

Recommendation: Motion to approve the resolution authorizing the May 6, 2014, regular election.

Member Edison moved to approve the resolution authorizing the May 6, 2014, regular election. Member Milanowski seconded the motion. A discussion was held among the board. Joint presentations on the bond and *EGR Now!* will take place at all of the March PTO meetings, and communications to the EGR community will be mailed in early March. President Rabideau publicly thanked fellow board members for proactively seeking feedback from community members. Motion passed 7-0.

## **ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS**

### Superintendent

Dr. Shubel reported on several activities that have taken place in the school buildings. She congratulated high school staff and students on a successful Kabookie Week which kicked off at the high school with an assembly featuring several students who presented powerful messages to the audience, as well as many student activities throughout the week. The Yule Ball was held in the high school cafeteria involving a Harry Potter theme, and a great time was had by all students, staff, and parents in attendance.

Dr. Shubel shared 5<sup>th</sup> grade Wealthy elementary student, Caroline Grin's, video that she submitted to the White House Student Film Festival. Her video was titled, "What We Can Do With Technology." The video was also shared with the Foundation to show how their support has been used in the elementary buildings.

Dr. Shubel announced that today is "100 Day" in our schools, and she presented each board member with a 100 Day pencil.

Dr. Shubel acknowledged Jeanne Glowicki on her work with the Professional Development days. An incredible amount of time, effort, and expertise goes into running the three days of PD. Dr. Shubel thanked Glowicki and the PD committee for their work in coordinating the PD sessions.

### Assistant Superintendent of Business

Kevin Philipps reported on the Governor's 2014-2015 Budget Proposal indicating the Foundation Allowance projection, MSPERS funding, as well as School Aid Fund projections. He also reported on the changes to Professional Development requirements, as well as the number of days of instruction (175) starting in 2014-2015. Philipps provided the EGRPS 2014-2015 Budget Projection with a revised deficit of \$685,734. A discussion was held among the Board.

### Assistant Superintendent of Instruction

Jeanne Glowicki reported on February PD and acknowledged the committee for their commitment and work in putting together such great learning opportunities for our staff.

### Board Member Reports

*Communications Committee* – President Rabideau reported that the committee will be meeting soon to work on bond education materials.

*Facilities Committee* – No reports.

*Finance Committee* – No reports.

*Joint Facilities Committee* – No reports.

*Legislative Liaison Committee* – Member Edison was unable to attend the last committee meeting. Member Welch Lykins shared that we need to continue to be active and involved with legislative issues. She shared that the personal phone calls from community members to legislators are making a difference.

*Personnel Committee* – No reports.

*Policy Review Committee* – No reports.

### Liaisons

*EGR Schools Foundation* – Member Bernecker reported that the *EGR Now!* committee plans to work together with Kevin Philipps to educate the community on how the bond proposal and *EGR Now!* can help support our schools.

*Community Action Council* – Member Levine reported that the committee is in the process of putting together an event with the dates and details to be announced.

*PTO Council* – No reports.

*Parks & Recreation* – Member Edison reported that the committee has not met but the next phase of a city project is being reviewed and will be submitted to the state seeking matching funds.

*Superintendent's Advisory Council (SAC)* – Member Wolford reported that Kathy Wisniewski, Director of Special Education, presented on special education. Jeanne Glowicki presented an update on the IB program. Budget discussions will begin next month.

*Leadership & Youth Development (LYD)* – Member Milanowski reported that LYD will coordinate the *Be Nice* program and Kabookie Week in the future and will seek student leaders for these activities. This will allow for a greater number of students to be involved in leadership opportunities. LYD will also be looking for new interns.

*Parent Advocates for Special Education (PASE)* – No reports.

Member Welch Lykins reported on her trip to Washington, D.C. where she represented our district at the NSBA Conference. She had the opportunity to meet parents throughout the state, as well as on a national level. Public school statistics were presented at the conference. Welch Lykins shared that we will soon see public interest ads on public education. Teacher evaluations were also discussed.

Member Edison reported that he attended the KIASB dinner where Member Welch Lykins presented. A Board of Education self-evaluation tool was shared, and Edison will share this tool with the EGRPS Board of Education.

President Rabideau announced that three board members will meet with legislators at a breakfast meeting at Kent ISD on Friday of this week.

Dr. Shubel shared a personal story of her nephews' involvement in singing at the closing ceremony at the 2014 Winter Olympics.

Member Milanowski announced that there are several events in the area of the arts taking place in the schools in March and encouraged everyone to attend.

Member Bernecker announced that *Hurrah!* will be held on Saturday, March 22 at the UICA.

The next regular board meeting/budget workshop will be held on Monday, March 24, 2014, at 5:00 p.m.

### **ADJOURNMENT**

President Rabideau adjourned the meeting at 8:01 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Beth Milanowski, 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.