

Our Mission

*Educating and inspiring each student
to navigate successfully
in a global community*

EAST GRAND RAPIDS PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Kent County, Michigan

BUDGET WORKSHOP/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, March 24, 2014

MINUTES

The **BUDGET WORKSHOP/REGULAR MEETING** of the East Grand Rapids Public Schools Board of Education, Kent County, Michigan, was held on Monday, March 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, Bob Wolford, Natalie Bernecker

Absent: Elizabeth Welch Lykins

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

Meeting Called to Order

President Rabideau called the meeting to order at 5:00 p.m.

Acknowledgment of Guests – None

Public Comments – None

Member Welch Lykins arrived at 5:03 p.m.

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

- The Board received a Thank You from Joshua Malec, Breton Downs/Lakeside custodian, for the Schuler gift card on the birth of his son, Alexander.
- The Board received a Thank You from Cassandra Rood, middle school teacher, for the Schuler gift card on the birth of her son, Xavier Nicholas.
- The Board received a Thank You from Kristen Lecours, Lakeside elementary teacher, for the Schuler gift card on the birth of her daughter, Emily Diane.

High School Student Council President's Report – None

Budget Work Session

President Rabideau explained that the format of the budget workshop is intended for administration to present an understanding of the state of the budget in the district.

Kevin Philipps, Assistant Superintendent of Business, provided an overview of budget topics including the 2014-2015 Budget, Structural Balance, and the Budget Process. He reported on the Governor's Proposal and the Senate Proposal. An Enrollment Forecast was provided for the 2014-2015 school year. The 2014-2015 Budget Forecast was presented with various scenarios. Philipps provided a history of budget reductions as well as compensation trends. He provided the timeline for the budget process leading to the adoption of the 2014-2015 budget on June 10, 2014.

President Rabideau encouraged board members to bring forth their questions and suggestions as we work toward developing a budget to be approved in June. A discussion was held among the Board throughout the budget work session.

PRESENTATION / DISCUSSION

None

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 through 9.

Approval of Minutes of REGULAR Meeting of 2/24/2014 (Enclosure #7)

Approval of Payment of Bills – February 2014 (Enclosure #8)

Approval of Proposed Interior Home Design Class (Enclosure #9)

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

OTHER ACTION ITEMS

Approval of Numbers for the 2014-2015 Schools of Choice Program (Enclosure #10)

Background: East Grand Rapids Public Schools has participated in the Kent Intermediate School District Collaborative Schools of Choice Program since its inception in the 1996-97 school year. The Finance Committee and Superintendent are recommending that we accept 17 students through the 2014-2015 Kent ISD Collaborative Schools of Choice Program.

Recommendation: Motion to accept 17 students through the 2014-2015 Kent ISD Collaborative Schools of Choice Program.

Dr. Shubel reviewed the Schools of Choice process reporting that the number of students accepted into EGRPS through the program includes a combination of current Schools of Choice students' siblings and new openings. The district offers one opening under Section 105c for students of contiguous intermediate school districts which is recommended in 1st grade and is included in the 17 SOC positions as proposed in Enclosure #10.

Member Wolford moved to accept 17 students through the 2014-2015 Kent ISD Collaborative Schools of Choice Program as outlined in Enclosure #10. Member Edison seconded the motion. A discussion was held among the Board. Motion passed 7-0.

ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS

Superintendent

Dr. Shubel thanked the board for their support of her attendance at the ASCD Conference last weekend. Phenomenal keynote speakers presented, and approximately 10,000 educators attended the conference.

Dr. Shubel announced the EGR Schools Foundation Spring Grants awarded and thanked the Foundation for their support. Brief descriptions of the various grants were provided. Jenny Fee, High School Principal, shared her appreciation for the support of the IB Professional Development grant. President Rabideau also thanked the Foundation for their ongoing support and contributions.

Dr. Shubel asked Doug Jenkins, Director of Technology, to share information on the MACUL Conference. Jenkins reported that 11 teachers and seven principals accompanied him to the MACUL conference which was held in Grand Rapids. The focus of the conference was on how technology can be used to positively impact learning. This is a practitioner's conference and Jenkins was pleased to have had the opportunity to have teachers and administrators in attendance this year.

Dr. Shubel asked Member Milanowski to share details of the MASB Legislative Conference which she attended with Members Bernecker and Welch Lykins. Milanowski reported that the morning session began with representatives holding a discussion on issues and challenges that public schools are facing. There was a discussion around snow days, policies, local control, and EAA was introduced on the floor on this day. Break-out sessions were held discussing policy agenda, as well as teacher/administrator evaluations. Board members met with Senator Mark Jansen and Representative Peter MacGregor. Member Bernecker thanked the board for supporting her attendance at the conference and felt it was very informative with good ideas on the different issues school districts face, and local control versus state control.

Dr. Shubel thanked the EGR Schools Foundation *Hurrah!* committee for holding another successful event where a great time was had by all in attendance.

Assistant Superintendent of Business

Kevin Philipps reported that he has been presenting alongside Amy Stuursma on the bond proposal and *EGR Now!* at the building PTO meetings, as well as Superintendent's Advisory Council. He announced that there are three additional information sessions scheduled in the evenings at 7pm on March 26, April 17, and April 21 in the community board room at Woodcliff.

Assistant Superintendent of Instruction

Jeanne Glowicki provided an update on the IB application process, sharing that the application has been submitted as the first step in the process. We expect to receive a response from the IB organization in late June. She also shared that a middle school math implementation proposal will be brought before the board at the April 21 board meeting.

Board Member Reports

Communications Committee – President Rabideau reported that the committee met with Kevin Philipps for bond session discussions and received positive community feedback on the website, FAQs, etc.

Facilities Committee – No reports.

Finance Committee – No reports.

Joint Facilities Committee – No reports.

Legislative Liaison Committee – Member Edison reported that the committee met on March 3 and focused on Department of Education rules dealing with students with disabilities and IEPs and the possible negative impacts these rules might have. The committee is working on finalizing legislative ambassadors.

Personnel Committee – No reports.

Policy Review Committee – No reports.

Liaisons

EGR Schools Foundation – Member Bernecker reported on the success of the *Hurrah!* event with over 500 attendees and approximately \$60,000 raised to help support our schools. Amy Stuursma is presenting to parent groups and community members on the *EGR Now!* campaign. Bernecker shared that the spring grants process is complete.

Community Action Council – Member Levine shared an email letter that was distributed by CAC to bring heightened awareness about the dangerous effects of alcohol consumption in adolescents.

PTO Council – President Rabideau shared that board members will receive an invitation to the annual PTO Spring Luncheon to be held on May 5 and encouraged everyone to attend.

Parks & Recreation – Member Edison reported that the Waterfront Park Phase II grant was not funded by the state and the committee is going to reapply in the coming year. Edison shared information on the bond proposal with committee members.

Superintendent's Advisory Council (SAC) – Member Wolford reported that Kevin Philipps and Amy Stuursma presented on the bond, budget, and *EGR Now!*

Leadership & Youth Development (LYD) – No reports.

Parent Advocates for Special Education (PASE) – Member Welch Lykins reported that the IEP process was discussed at the PASE meeting and a discussion was held regarding the new rules proposed by the Department of Education.

President Rabideau reported that two parents, Kim Rossi and Julie Kowalewski, have volunteered to co-chair the *EGR Yes!* Committee. Rabideau publicly thanked them for taking on this task and encouraged the board to support their efforts.

The next regular board meeting will be held on Monday, April 21, 2014, at 5:30 p.m. (Changed from April 14, 2014)

ADJOURNMENT

President Rabideau adjourned the meeting at 6:50 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.