

## **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, May 19, 2014**

### **MINUTES**

The **REGULAR MEETING** of the East Grand Rapids Public Schools Board of Education, Kent County, Michigan, was held on Monday, May 19, 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, Beth Milanowski, Susan Levine, Elizabeth Welch Lykins, Bob Wolford, Natalie Bernecker

Absent: Steve Edison, Beth Milanowski, Bob Wolford

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

#### Meeting Called to Order

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

Acknowledgment of Guests – President Rabideau welcomed her stepmother, Emily Parmley, from California to this evening's meeting.

Board Member, Beth Milanowski arrived at 6:02 p.m.

Public Comments - None

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

- The Board received a Thank You from Christy Gast, Amy Marlow, and Emilee Bilski, Breton Downs 5<sup>th</sup> grade teachers, for the bagels in honor of Teacher Appreciation Week.
- The Board received communication from Bob and Jodi Blanchard on special education.

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

Sally Marsh, Senior Class President, reported that seniors are finishing up their school year and are looking forward to Baccalaureate, Senior Breakfast, and Graduation. A successful prom was held last weekend. Sally introduced Blake Driscoll as next year's board representative.

#### **PRESENTATION / DISCUSSION**

##### Recognition of High School Student – Perfect ACT Score

Jenny Fee, High School Principal, announced that Lucas Merritt received a perfect ACT score of 36. Lucas was recognized and congratulated by the board for his accomplishments.

##### Recognition of High School Students – Eagle Scouts

Jenny Fee announced that seven EGRHS seniors were awarded the Eagle Scout rank, the highest rank attainable in the Boy Scouts of America program. The following students were recognized and congratulated by the board: Andrew Griffin, Troy Gotch, Zak Longo, Andrew Koski, TJ Strickland, as well as Peter Donnelly and Nick Emery with pending Eagle Scout honors.

##### Recognition of Carole McDonald and Trish Reid – Learning Commons

Jeanne Glowicki recognized and thanked Carole McDonald and Trish Reid for their work in the district's Learning Commons. Glowicki presented them with a gift card in appreciation of their dedication and volunteer time.

Athletic Department Annual Report – Tim Johnston

Tim Johnston, High School Director of Athletics, reported on the number of varsity sports offered in EGRPS, funding sources, Athletic Boosters financial support, and the 2014-2015 budget. Johnston shared that 660 out of 986 enrolled high school students in EGRHS participate in athletics.

President Rabideau and Dr. Shubel thanked Johnston for his leadership in the district's athletic program.

Board Member, Bob Wolford, arrived at 6:19 p.m.

Proposed AP Physics C (Enclosure #10)

Jeanne Glowicki, Assistant Superintendent of Instruction, introduced high school math teacher, Mike Arthur, who presented on the Proposed AP Physics C course as outlined in Enclosure #10. Arthur reported that more time in labs and hands-on activities and a deeper understanding are some of the benefits to students with this course. Additionally, the College Board has redesigned the AP Physics curriculum, and our current curriculum no longer qualifies for AP certification. Texts were reviewed and Glowicki summarized the Proposed AP Physics C implementation with the recommendations and total budget of \$8,990.90. A discussion was held among the board.

Dr. Shubel thanked Mike Arthur and the science department for presenting a complete and thorough proposal.

**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 11 through 15.

Approval of Minutes of SPECIAL Meeting of 04/18/2014 (Enclosure #11)

Approval of Minutes of REGULAR Meeting of 04/21/2014 (Enclosure #12)

Approval of Minutes of SPECIAL Meeting of 04/22/2014-Superintendent Evaluation (Enclosure #13)

Approval of Payment of Bills – April 2014 (Enclosure #14)

Approval of Proposed Middle School Math Implementation (Enclosure #15)

Member Bernecker moved to approve Consent Agenda Items 11-15. Member Milanowski seconded the motion. Motion passed 6-0.

**OTHER ACTION ITEMS**

Approval of KISD Budget for 2014-2015 (Enclosure #16)

Background: The State of Michigan requires that local school boards review their ISD's proposed budget and act in support or non-support of the budget. The Finance Committee has discussed the KISD 2014-2015 budget and recommends support.

Recommendation: Motion to support the KISD 2014-2015 budget as presented.

Member Levine moved to support the KISD 2014-2015 budget as presented in Enclosure #16. Member Milanowski seconded the motion. A discussion was held among the Board. Motion passed 6-0.

Approval of the Superintendent's Evaluation and Contract Extension

The board conducted the annual evaluation of Dr. Shubel on April 22, 2014. After a very thorough review, the board deemed Dr. Shubel to be highly effective. While everyone recognizes that this is a very difficult financial environment, Dr. Shubel is still able to move our district forward with her team. Based on those factors, the board is recommending that we extend Dr. Shubel's contract by one year to June 30, 2017.

Member Welch Lykins moved to approve the Superintendent's Evaluation and extend her contract by one year to June 30, 2017. Member Levine seconded the motion. Motion passed 6-0.

### Approval of Resolution Authorizing Issuance of Bonds

**Background:** To begin facilitating the sale of bonds related to the Bond Proposal passed on May 6, 2014, the Board needs to authorize the issuance of bonds through a resolution. Passage of this resolution will authorize the administration to move forward to have our bonds priced in the open market. The Finance Committee and Superintendent have discussed the bond sale strategy with our underwriter and financial advisor and recommend approval of the resolution.

**Recommendation:** Motion to approve the resolution to authorize the issuance of bonds as recommended by the Finance Committee and Superintendent and presented in Enclosure #18.

Kevin Philipps welcomed Jeff Soles of Thrun Law Firm who presented background information on the resolution presented before the board. Soles reported that a ratification resolution will be presented in June. Philipps shared that he would like to price the bonds on June 4 and present to the board on June 10.

Member Milanowski moved to approve the resolution to authorize the issuance of bonds as recommended by the Finance Committee and Superintendent and presented in Enclosure #18. Member Wolford seconded the motion. A discussion was held among the Board. Motion passed 6-0.

President Rabideau again thanked the community, parents, staff, and administration for their support of the bond proposal.

## **ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS**

### Superintendent

Dr. Shubel announced that there are seven staff members in the district who will be receiving tenure this year as listed in Enclosure #19.

At 6:48 p.m., Member Bernecker left the meeting to attend another EGR event.

Dr. Shubel announced the upcoming dates of:

- Baccalaureate – Tuesday, May 20, 2014, 6:00 p.m. at Fountain Street Church
- Kindergarten Orientation for families – Wednesday, May 21, 2014
- High School Graduation Ceremony – Thursday, May 22, 2014, 7:00 p.m. at Memorial Field
- Staff Retirement Breakfast – Friday, May 30, 8:00 a.m.

Dr. Shubel announced that the PTO Council Luncheon was held on May 5 with a roomful of parents who have dedicated their entire year running school events, meetings, and fundraisers, and she expressed her gratitude for the continued commitment and support the schools receive from this group. Member Rabideau announced that Steve Edison, Board of Education Vice President, was honored with the 2014 Distinguished Service Award.

Dr. Shubel asked Jenny Fee to provide an overview of the high school state and national rankings. Fee shared that the high school received AP Honor Roll recognition for the fourth year in a row, which is awarded to schools that have increased the number of students who have access to AP coursework while maintaining a strong passing rate on AP assessments. Fee shared national rankings from Newsweek and Washington Post.

### Assistant Superintendent of Business

Kevin Philipps provided an overview of the State Budget Update. He shared the recommendations from both the Community and Staff Budget Focus Groups. Further information will be shared at the Budget Hearing on June 2, 2014, with final budget adoption at the regular meeting on Tuesday, June 10, 2014, at 6:00 p.m.

A discussion was held among the board. Board members thanked Philipps for his presentation and updates on the budget.

### Assistant Superintendent of Instruction

Jeanne Glowicki provided an update on Summer Learning classes to be held in June, with staff members participating in several classes as an extension of their learning.

Board Member Reports

*Communications Committee* – No reports.

*Facilities Committee* – No reports.

*Finance Committee* – Member Levine commended Kevin Philipps on his attention to educating voters on the bond proposal, and she thanked voters for supporting the bond proposal.

*Joint Facilities Committee* – No reports.

*Legislative Liaison Committee* – Member Welch Lykins reported that the Kent ISD Grass Roots committee is working on inviting all candidates in the upcoming primaries to a Town Hall Meet & Greet forum.

*Personnel Committee* – No reports.

*Policy Review Committee* – No reports.

Liaisons

*EGR Schools Foundation* – Member Bernecker reported that the EGRNOW! campaign is in full swing and appreciates everyone's support.

*Community Action Council* – Member Levine reported that CAC sponsored senior class awards and announced that Jillian Langford and Zak Longo were awarded the CAC Senior Class Citizenship Award for characterizing integrity, a positive lifestyle, and respect for others.

*PTO Council* – No reports.

*Parks & Recreation* – No reports.

*Superintendent's Advisory Council (SAC)* – No reports.

*Leadership & Youth Development (LYD)* – Milanowski reported that the Senior Retreat is moving to Camp Henry and they are running leadership opportunities to students involved in the program. She recognized Stacy Trierweiler for her service on the LYD board.

*Parent Advocates for Special Education (PASE)* – Welch Lykins reported that plans for next year and topics of interest were discussed. A new president was nominated and voted on.

The next regular board meeting/budget hearing will be held on Monday, June 2, 2014, at 5:30 p.m.

**ADJOURNMENT**

President Rabideau adjourned the meeting at 7:29 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.