

## **Our Mission**

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

## **EAST GRAND RAPIDS PUBLIC SCHOOLS**

Kent County, Michigan

### **SPECIAL 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, August 12, 2013**

### **MINUTES**

The **SPECIAL MEETING** of the East Grand Rapids Public Schools Board of Education, Kent County, Michigan, was held on Monday, August 12, 2013, 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, Brian Ellis, Beth Milanowski, Susan Levine, Steve Edison, Elizabeth Welch Lykins

Absent: None

Administration: Dr. Sara Magaña Shubel, Kevin Philipps

#### Meeting Called to Order

President Rabideau called the meeting to order at 5:02 p.m.

Acknowledgment of Guests – None

Public Comments – None

President Rabideau explained that tonight's agenda has been amended to include an action item for a motion to approve the Common Core Resolution. The proposed resolution has been provided to board members in their board packet.

#### **ACTION ITEMS**

##### Approval of a School Bond Loan Resolution (Enclosure #4)

The district borrows annually from the School Bond Loan Program to assist in making our debt retirement payments. The application for the 2013-2014 borrowing needs to be approved by the full Board.

Kevin Philipps provided details of the School Bond Loan Resolution.

Member Milanowski moved to approve the School Bond Loan Resolution authorizing the district to borrow funds from the Michigan School Bond Loan Program as presented. A discussion was held among the board. Member Edison seconded the motion. Motion passed 6-0.

##### Amendment to Agenda: Approval of a Common Core Resolution

President Rabideau explained that school board presidents received an email late last week urging our board to pass the Common Core Resolution. Board members were provided time to review the resolution at this meeting since this was the first time board members were seeing the resolution as an amended item.

Dr. Shubel reported that she supports the resolution as presented, and a lot of work has already been done in our district in support of the Common Core.

Member Edison noted that the state legislature had input previously, whereas public hearings were conducted in 2010 and Common Core was incorporated into the recommendation of the Michigan State Board of Education.

Member Edison moved to approve the Common Core Resolution as presented to the board. Member Welch Lykins seconded the motion. Motion passed 6-0.

Board Vacancy (Enclosure #5)

Background: Due to the resignation of Robert Minnema on July 15, 2013, the Board of Education has 30 days to appoint someone to fill his seat for the remainder of his term through December 31, 2014. One of the four candidate finalists, Jennifer Cory Behler, as determined by the board at the August 5 board meeting, will be interviewed at this meeting.

President Rabideau explained that the board will interview one of the four candidate finalists this evening. Following the final interview this evening, the board will conduct deliberations and then the board will vote to appoint a replacement to serve for the remainder of Minnema's term through December 31, 2014.

Interview of Jennifer Cory Behler

Jennifer Cory Behler gave a brief opening statement, then answered questions from the board members. Following the questions, Dr. Behler presented a brief closing statement.

President Rabideau thanked the applicant for coming forward and wanting to serve on the Board.

Deliberation and Selection/Appointment of New Board Member (Motion and Vote on Appointee)

There was a general discussion on the four candidates interviewed. Each board member felt that all candidates were outstanding and that the district is fortunate to have such a high caliber of people willing to serve.

Member Edison moved to appoint Robert Wolford as the seventh member of the East Grand Rapids Public Schools Board of Education to fill out the term of Robert Minnema's seat through December 31, 2014. Member Levine seconded the motion. Per Board Policy #1030, a roll call vote was taken: Rabideau-Yes; Ellis-Yes; Milanowski-Yes; Levine-Yes; Edison-Yes; Welch Lykins-Yes. Motion passed 6-0.

Swearing in of New Board of Education Member, Robert Wolford

Judie Malec, Secretary to the Board and Superintendent, administered the Oath of Office to Robert Wolford. Wolford will serve as a member of the Board of Education for East Grand Rapids Public Schools, Kent County, Michigan. As appointed by law, due to Robert Minnema's resignation, Wolford's term will run through December 31, 2014.

President Rabideau thanked the board members for their time and efforts in selecting a new board member.

Any other matters that come before the Board – None.

**ADJOURNMENT**

President Rabideau adjourned the meeting at 6:22 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.