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*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 23, 2015

MINUTES

The **REGULAR MEETING** of the East Grand Rapids Public Schools Board of Education, Kent County, Michigan, was held on Monday, February 23, 2015, 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, Elizabeth Welch Lykins, Robert Wolford, Natalie Bernecker, Mark Hessler, Brian Coles

Absent: Beth Milanowski

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

Meeting Called to Order

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

Acknowledgment of Guests – None.

Public Comments – None

High School Student Council President's Report

Blake Driscoll, Senior Class President, reported that several activities were held during Kabookie Week which concluded with an assembly featuring Kinetic Affect and was enjoyed by everyone. A retirement luncheon will be planned for Eddie Michalec, high school custodian.

Member Milanowski arrived at 6:02 p.m.

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

- The Board received communication from Greg Patterson on special education.
- The Board received communication from Jill Fennessy, President of Tri County Area Schools Board of Education, seeking support of her candidacy for the MASB Board of Education Directors position.
- The Board received communication from Meegan Zickus, Member of Allendale Public Schools Board of Education, seeking support of her candidacy for the MASB Board of Education Directors position.
- The Board received communication from Brian and Laura Davis on the high school Kabookie assembly.
- The Board received communication from Louis and Nora Cares on the high school Kabookie assembly.

Dr. Shubel introduced Jackie Burdick, Reading Specialist at Breton Downs Elementary, and recognized her for her heroic actions in performing CPR and AED in response to the sudden cardiac arrest of a gentleman who was playing evening basketball in the gymnasium. Caroline Breault-Cannon, Breton Downs Principal, and Burdick recounted the events of that evening. The board congratulated Jackie on her swift actions and presented her with a certificate of recognition, flowers, and a Kabookie coin.

PRESENTATION / DISCUSSION

KIDZ Have Rights (Enclosure #6) – Jeanne Glowicki, Assistant Superintendent of Instruction, provided background information on the proposed KIDZ Have Rights program as a curriculum program which focuses on student safety while complying with the requirements of Erin’s Law (Senate Bill 1113-1114, Act 594). KIDZ Have Rights is a body safety education program taught by four specifically trained educators in grades K-4. Glowicki introduced Chris Kenward and Melissa VanderZyden, elementary school social workers, who presented details of the program and answered questions of the board. They shared that this program is proposed for implementation this fall and there is no cost for the program. A discussion was held among the board. President Rabideau announced that this program will be an action item on the March 16 board agenda. She thanked the presenters for leading the way in bringing this program to 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 items in the Consent Agenda, Numbers 7 through 9.

Approval of Minutes of REGULAR Meeting of 1/26/2015 (Enclosure #7)

Approval of Payment of Bills – January 2015 (Enclosure #8)

Approval of Petition to Strike Personal Property Taxes (Enclosure #9)

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

OTHER ACTION ITEMS

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.

ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS

Superintendent

Dr. Shubel announced that Wealthy Elementary was recently nominated by the Michigan Department of Education to apply for the U.S. Department of Education’s Blue Ribbon School designation which is a program that recognizes public and private elementary, middle, and high schools based on overall academic excellence, or their progress in closing the achievement gaps among student population groups. Each year, the U. S. Department of Education seeks out and celebrates great American schools that demonstrate high levels of achievement among their students.

Wealthy is one of 13 schools in the state to have been nominated by the state as an exemplary high performing school. Now that the school has been nominated, the school must undergo a lengthy application process and involvement of the entire staff. The U.S. Department of Education will review applications and data from the past two years. We will find out toward the end of the summer whether Wealthy Elementary has been awarded the Blue Ribbon School designation.

Dr. Shubel shared that February is Principal Recognition Month and thanked district administrators for their dedication and work on behalf of our schools, students, and staff.

Assistant Superintendent of Business

Kevin Philipps reported on the Governor’s 2015-2016 Budget Proposal and shared that district communications have gone out to staff, parents, and the board regarding the EGRPS Budget Projection. To summarize, Philipps shared that EGRPS will receive a *decrease* of \$17 in per-pupil funding from the state. President Rabideau thanked the administration for the communications shared with the community. Dr. Shubel felt it was important to expedite the communications last week so the community was not misled by the information shared in the media and that we will continue to keep the community informed.

Assistant Superintendent of Instruction

Jeanne Glowicki reported on the Units of Study Writing Update indicating this is in the pilot phase. She shared a document written by a kindergarten student as an example of the writing progress being made in kindergarten.

Board Member Reports

Communications Committee – No reports.

Facilities Committee – No reports.

Finance Committee – No reports.

Joint Facilities Committee – No reports.

Legislative Liaison Committee – Member Hessler reported that the February meeting was canceled due to the Snow Day.

Personnel Committee – No reports.

Policy Review Committee – No reports.

Liaisons

EGR Schools Foundation – Member Bernecker announced the *Hurrah!* event to be held at Cheney Place on March 14 with the theme of Yesteryear. *EGRNow!* officially kicks off in March. The goal is *100% All In*. The applications for the next grant cycle are due March 1.

Community Action Council – No reports. A meeting will be held next week.

PTO Council – No reports.

Parks & Recreation – Member Hessler reported that he attended his first meeting in February. He shared that the City of EGR is looking for a new maintenance manager.

Superintendent's Advisory Council (SAC) – Member Hessler reported that SAC met and discussed the budget and Schools of Choice.

Leadership & Youth Development (LYD) – Member Milanowski reported that LYD is continuing to recruit for Healthy High. Senior Retreat kicked off. Strategic Planning is scheduled for March.

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

Member Welch Lykins reported that she attended the National School Board Advocacy Institute in Washington, D.C. which was partially funded through a Kent ISD scholarship. She met with board members from across the country, met with Senators Stabenow and Peters, and attended various conference sessions. President Rabideau thanked Member Welch Lykins for attending the conference and providing a report to the board.

The next regular board meeting will be held on Monday, March 16, 2015, at 6:00 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT

President Rabideau adjourned the meeting at 7:07 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.