

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, April 20, 2015

MINUTES

The **REGULAR MEETING** of the East Grand Rapids Public Schools Board of Education, Kent County, Michigan, was held on Monday, April 20, 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, Beth Milanowski, Natalie Bernecker, Mark Hessler, Brian Coles

Absent: Robert Wolford

Administration: Dr. Sara Magaña Shubel, Jeanne Glowicki, Kevin Philipps, Kathy Wisniewski, Doug Jenkins, Jenny Fee, Steve Wojciechowski, Lori Johnston, Peter Stuursma, 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. She announced that Dr. Shubel is attending the EGR City Commission meeting with Dr. Caroline Breault-Cannon, Breton Downs Elementary Principal, where Jackie Burdick, Reading Specialist, is being recognized by the City and Public Safety Department for her swift, life-saving actions taken in February to aid a community member who suffered a sudden cardiac arrest while playing evening recreational basketball at the school. Dr. Shubel will return to this evening's board meeting following the City's recognition.

Acknowledgment of Guests – President Rabideau announced that EGR City Mayor Amna Seibold, and Patti Warmington of Cherry Street Health Services are present this evening and will speak during Public Comments.

Public Comments

Patti Warmington of Cherry Street Health Services commented on the EGRPS updated tobacco policy and presented the board with a plaque which recognizes the district as having a Comprehensive Plus rating from the State of Michigan.

EGR Mayor Amna Seibold shared information on the EGR Streets and Sidewalks Millage Proposal that will be on the May ballot. She provided an overview of the proposal and shared that all dollars from the passing of the millage will stay local for EGR streets and sidewalks.

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

- The Board received a Thank You from Jackie Burdick, Breton Downs Reading Specialist, on her board recognition in February.
- The Board received communication from Matthew Schroeder on proposed budget reductions.

High School Student Council President's Report

Blake Driscoll, Senior Class President, was not in attendance this evening due a conflict with his musical rehearsal. Steve Wojciechowski, Assistant High School Principal, provided an update on the Student Council activities and shared that Student Council election speeches will be held and new officers will be announced this week. Students are preparing for Teacher and Staff Appreciation Week in May. This year's prom will be held at the Children's Museum on May 16.

PRESENTATION / DISCUSSION

Recognition of Teacher and Staff Appreciation: May 4-8, 2015

Jeanne Glowicki, Assistant Superintendent of Instruction, announced that Teacher and Staff Appreciation Week is May 4-8, 2015, and she thanked our teachers and support staff for their dedication and commitment to our students. President Rabideau expressed her appreciation and thanked all staff members on behalf of the board.

Proposed K-8 Math Renewal (Enclosure #7)

Jeanne Glowicki presented on the proposed K-8 Math Renewal. An overview was presented and the proposed budget was provided for 2015-2016. A discussion was held among the board and it was clarified that the board does not need to schedule a motion of approval as this is a *renewal* of the K-8 Math program.

Dr. Shubel arrived at 6:17 p.m.

First Reading of New and Revised Policies (Enclosure #8)

Dr. Shubel and President Rabideau shared the policies which were reviewed by the Policy Review Committee. A discussion was held among the board and suggestions for amendments were made to some of the policies which will be presented for approval at the April 28 board meeting.

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 9 through 12.

Approval of Minutes of REGULAR Meeting of 3/16/2015 (Enclosure #9)

Approval of Minutes of SPECIAL Meeting of 3/30/2015 (Enclosure #10)

Approval of Payment of Bills – March 2015 (Enclosure #11)

Acceptance of Grants from the East Grand Rapids Schools Foundation (Enclosure #12)

Member Welch Lykins moved to approve Consent Agenda Items 9-12. Member Hessler seconded the motion. Motion passed 6-0.

OTHER ACTION ITEMS

Resolution of Kent ISD School Board Election (Enclosure #13)

President Rabideau provided background information regarding the Kent ISD School Board Election. She explained that this is actually not an action item; rather it is an information item. She invited board members to express their availability and willingness to serve as representatives for the electoral body for the upcoming Kent ISD School Board Election. Members Coles and Welch Lykins expressed their willingness to serve as EGRPS board representatives. The resolution designating the representatives will be presented at the May 11, 2015, regular board meeting. A discussion was held among the Board.

Approval of Resolution in Support of Proposal I (Enclosure #14)

President Rabideau explained that the board Communications Committee reviewed an initial Proposal I resolution which many local school boards had already passed; however, the committee felt the need to strengthen the language to include the impact that Proposal I would have for East Grand Rapids Public Schools. The Proposal I resolution is presented in Enclosure #14.

Member Milanowski moved to approve the Resolution in Support of Proposal I as presented in Enclosure 14. Member Welch Lykins seconded the motion. Motion passed 6-0.

Approval of Purchase of Carpet from Sinking Fund – Kevin Philipps

Background: The long-term plan for the district's sinking fund includes the replacement of carpet throughout the district. Administration recommends combining the replacement of carpet with the ongoing construction from the 2014 bond. The district utilized the Kent Intermediate School District's consolidated bid program to obtain pricing to replace carpet throughout the middle and high schools, as well as the elementary hallways this summer. The recommended solution is to accept a bid from Tandus in the amount of \$701,557.17. The Finance Committee has reviewed this proposal and recommends accepting the bid.

Recommendation: Motion to approve the purchase of carpet from Tandus in the amount of \$701,557.17 from the district sinking fund as recommended by the Finance Committee and Superintendent.

Kevin Philipps, Assistant Superintendent of Business, provided background information on the recommendation to approve the purchase of carpet from the Sinking Fund.

Member Coles moved to approve the Purchase of Carpet from the Sinking Fund. Member Milanowski seconded the motion. Motion passed 6-0.

Approval of Security Cameras, Signage and Building Management Systems from the 2014 Bond (Enclosure #16)

Background: The district requested bids to replace and enhance security cameras, signage, and building energy management systems. Administration recommends accepting bids totaling \$1,318,605 as detailed in Enclosure #15. The bids have been reviewed by the Facilities Committee and they recommend acceptance of the bids as presented.

Recommendation: Motion to approve bids totaling \$1,318,605 for the replacement and enhancement of security cameras, signage and building energy management systems as recommended by the Facilities Committee and Superintendent.

Kevin Philipps provided background information on the recommendation to approve the bids as outlined in Enclosure #16.

Member Welch Lykins moved to approve the bids for Security Cameras, Signage, and Building Management Systems from the 2014 Bond as presented in Enclosure #16. Member Coles seconded the motion. Motion passed 6-0.

Approval of Servers, Storage and Wired Networking Systems from the 2014 Bond (Enclosure #17) – Kevin Philipps

Background: The district requested bids to refresh servers, data storage and wired networking systems district-wide during the summer of 2015. Administration recommends accepting bids totaling \$614,997.61 as detailed in Enclosure #16. The bids have been reviewed by the Facilities Committee and recommend acceptance of the bids as presented.

Recommendation: Motion to approve bids totaling \$614,997.61 to refresh servers, data storage and wired networking systems as recommended by the Facilities Committee and Superintendent.

Kevin Philipps provided background information on the recommendation to approve the bids as outlined in Enclosure #17.

Member Bernecker moved to approve the Servers, Storage, and Wired Networking Systems from the 2014 Bond as presented in Enclosure #17. Member Hessler seconded the motion. Motion passed 6-0.

Approval of Spring Cash Flow Borrowing Resolution – (Enclosure #18) – Kevin Philipps

Background: In June 2014, the Board of Education approved a state aid note in the amount of \$1,500,000 for cash flow purposes throughout the 2014-2015 fiscal year. Due to state funding and student enrollment being lower than expected, the \$1,500,000 note is not sufficient to maintain cash flows throughout the fiscal year. Administration recommends taking out a supplemental three month note in the amount of \$750,000 to provide sufficient cash flow liquidity. The Finance Committee has reviewed the resolution that will start the borrowing process and recommend approval.

Recommendation: Motion to approve the spring cash flow borrowing resolution as recommended by the Finance Committee and Superintendent.

Kevin Philipps provided background information on the recommendation to approve the spring cash flow borrowing resolution as presented in Enclosure #18.

Member Coles moved to approve the Spring Cash Flow Borrowing Resolution as presented in Enclosure #18. Member Milanowski seconded the motion. Motion passed 6-0.

Approval of Voluntary Separation Incentive – (Enclosure #19)

Background: As part of a comprehensive solution to structurally balance the 2015-2016, administration recommends offering a voluntary separation incentive to East Grand Rapids Education Association members and district administrators who have at least 10 years of service with the district. The Finance Committee has reviewed the proposed incentive and recommends approval.

Recommendation: Motion to approve voluntary separation incentive as recommended by Finance Committee and Superintendent.

Member Hessler moved to approve the Voluntary Separation Incentive as presented in Enclosure #19. Member Coles seconded the motion. A discussion was held among the board. Motion passed 6-0.

Member Milanowski moved to amend the Voluntary Incentive Program to include administrators in the incentive program. Member Coles seconded the motion. Motion passed 6-0.

Approval of Tuition Enrollment Program (Enclosure #20)

Dr. Shubel provided background information on the Tuition Enrollment Program and the process to be used for applicants, as well as the communications that will be sent to the surrounding community.

Member Bernecker moved to approve the Tuition Enrollment Program as presented in Enclosure #20. Member Coles seconded the motion. A discussion was held among the board. Motion passed 6-0.

ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS

Superintendent

Dr. Shubel shared that a great deal of time was spent working with law enforcement officials and preparing communication to the community regarding the recent criminal investigation involving an alleged coach/student relationship. She reported that the district has cooperated fully with EGR Public Safety Department and Michigan State Police and will continue to cooperate throughout the process. President Rabideau commended Dr. Shubel on her professional handling of the communications involved in this matter and the time involved in this very difficult situation for our entire school community.

Assistant Superintendent of Business

No reports.

Assistant Superintendent of Instruction

No reports.

Board Member Reports

Communications Committee – Member Bernecker reported that the committee drafted the first of three letters regarding Proposal I which will be shared with the community to provide factual information on Proposal I and how it affects our schools.

Facilities Committee – No reports.

Finance Committee – No reports.

Joint Facilities Committee – Member Rabideau reported that the next meeting will be held in May.

Legislative Liaison Committee – Dr. Shubel reported that the Legislative Committee met and emailed Proposal I information to the community and will continue to have conversations with our community members. Member Hessler reported that he is staying in contact with our legislators and will continue following up on legislative issues.

Personnel Committee – No reports.

Policy Review Committee – Member Rabideau reported that the committee met to discuss the policy revisions and additions as presented this evening.

Liaisons

EGR Schools Foundation – Member Bernecker reported EGRNow! is in full force with a goal of \$300,000. A walking campaign and local vendor participation is planned. The Foundation passed the spring cycle of grants and the Mini-Grant awards were increased to \$1,500 to help teachers on an ongoing basis throughout the school year. EGRSF is reviewing their financial manager and will complete the review by the end of April; this is a process that is done ever seven years.

Community Action Council – No reports.

PTO Council – Member Rabideau reported that the annual luncheon will be held on May 4 at 12pm at the middle school.

Parks & Recreation – No reports.

Superintendent's Advisory Council (SAC) – Dr. Shubel reported that the budget conversations were wrapped up with Kevin Philipps presented the recommendations.

Leadership & Youth Development (LYD) – Member Milanowski reported that LYD held strategic planning at the end of March and talked about future and past events and looked at ways to keep the program moving ahead on a volunteer basis. Programs are in full swing with Senior Retreat in process. Healthy high has two new junior co-chairs. Adjustments will be made to TEAM, STEP, and TATU programs.

Parent Advocates for Special Education (PASE) – Member Welch Lykins reported that a meeting on Transition will be held at the ISD on May 7.

Beth Milanowski reported that *We The People* national competition will be held this weekend in Washington, D.C.

The next regular board meeting will be held on Monday, May 11, 2015, at 6:00 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT

President Rabideau adjourned the meeting at 7:20 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.

jmm 4/21/2015