

## **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**

The James E. Morse Administration Center at Woodcliff  
2915 Hall Street SE, East Grand Rapids, MI 49506

**Monday, January 22, 2018**

### **MINUTES**

The **REGULAR MEETING** of the East Grand Rapids Public Schools Board of Education, Kent County, Michigan, was held on Monday, January 22, 2018, in Community Board Room at the James E. Morse Administration Center, 2915 Hall Street SE, East Grand Rapids, MI 49506.

#### **BOARD OF EDUCATION**

Present: Natalie Bernecker, Elizabeth Welch, Beth Milanowski, Robert Wolford, Mark Hessler, Brian Coles, Brad Laackman

Absent: None

Administration: Dr. Sara Magaña Shubel, Jenny Fee, Kevin Philipps, Doug Jenkins, Craig Weigel, Lori Johnston, Tim Johnston, Anthony Morey, Shelly Schram, Carlye Allen, Caroline Breault-Cannon, Stephanie Thelen

#### **Meeting Called to Order**

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

#### **Acknowledgment of Guests – None**

#### **Public Comments – None**

#### **Board Secretary's Report: Communications to and from the Board**

The Board received a Thank You note from Dr. Shubel, EGRPS Superintendent, for their support on the passing of her mother.

The Board received a letter of introduction from Eric-John Szczepaniak announcing his candidacy for the Kent Intermediate Association of School Boards.

#### **Student Council President's Report – No report.**

#### **PRESENTATION / DISCUSSION ITEMS**

##### **Recognition of We The People State Championship**

Dr. Shubel and Craig Weigel announced that the high school *We The People* team won the State Championship competition and will be competing in the national competition in Washington, D.C. in April. The board commended the team and coaches who worked so hard and recognized them for their accomplishments. The team was presented with certificates of recognition from the board.

##### **School Board Recognition Month**

On behalf of the administration team, Dr. Shubel recognized and thanked the board members for their dedication and the work they do on behalf of the community, students, and staff. A token of appreciation was presented to each board member.

#### **ACTION ITEMS - CONSENT AGENDA**

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 8-10.

Approval of Minutes of REGULAR Meeting of 12/04/2017 (Enclosure #8)

Approval of Minutes of SPECIAL Meeting of 1/08/2018 (Enclosure #9)

Approval of Payment of Bills – December 2017 (Enclosure #10)

Member Welch moved to approve Consent Agenda items 8-10. Member Hessler seconded the motion. Motion passed 7-0.

## **OTHER ACTION ITEMS**

### Approval of Schools of Choice Resolutions for 2018-2019 – Dr. Shubel (Enclosure #11 a-c)

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.

#### a. Approval of a Resolution to Opt Out of Section 105

Background: East Grand Rapids Public Schools has opted out of the State Choice Plan since the inception of the KISD Collaborative Schools of Choice Plan in the 1996-97 school year.

Recommendation: Motion to pass a resolution to exercise the option permitted by Section 105 of the State School Aid Act of 1979, as amended by Public Act 300 of 1996, to not accept Section 105 applications of nonresident students from outside our district, for purposes of operating an intermediate school district-wide schools of choice program in accordance with Section 105 for the 2018-2019 school year.

Member Milanowski moved to approve a Resolution to exercise the option permitted by Section 105 of the State School Aid Act of 1979, as amended by Public Act 300 of 1996, to not accept Section 105 applications of nonresident students from outside our district, for purposes of operating an intermediate school districtwide schools of choice program in accordance with Section 105 for the 2018-2019 school year. Member Coles seconded the motion. Motion passed 7-0.

#### b. Approval of a Resolution to Opt In of Section 105c

Background: In accordance with Section 105c as permitted in the State School Aid Act, Public Act 119 of 1999, as amended by Public Act 297 of 2000, it is recommended that East Grand Rapids Public Schools will accept applications for enrollment from residents of contiguous intermediate school districts for the 2018-2019 school year.

Recommendation: Motion to pass a resolution to exercise the option permitted by Section 105c of the State School Aid Act, Public Act 119 of 1999, as amended by Public Act 297 of 2000, to accept applications for enrollment from residents of contiguous intermediate school districts for the 2017-2018 school year.

Member Hessler moved to approve a Resolution to Opt In to Section 105c for the 2018-2019 school year. Member Laackman seconded the motion. Motion passed 7-0.

#### c. Approval of a Resolution to Participate in the 2018-2019 Kent Intermediate School District Collaborative Schools of Choice Program

Background: This is the 15th year of the KISD Schools of Choice Program.

Recommendation: Motion to pass a resolution to participate in the Kent ISD Collaborative Schools of Choice Program for the 2018-2019 school year.

Member Welch moved to approve a Resolution to participate in the Kent ISD Collaborative Schools of Choice Program for the 2018-2019 school year. Member Milanowski seconded the motion. Motion passed 7-0.

## **ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS**

### Superintendent

Dr. Shubel shared that she is looking forward to a smooth second half of the school year.

### Assistant Superintendent of Business

Kevin Philipps reported on the January Revenue Conference summarizing the results and shared that a projected increase of up to \$368 per student is feasible in the foundation allowance. Additional information will be available when the Governor presents his proposed budget for 2018-2019, which is scheduled to be presented in early February. As we learn more in February, Philipps will provide an update on the budget and what that will mean for the EGRPS 2018-2019 budget. EGRPS is currently estimating a \$75 per-pupil increase in our budget forecast. A discussion was held among the board.

Philipps shared an update on the Michigan Supreme Court Ruling that PA 75 of 2010 was unconstitutional. The Office of Retirement Services (ORS) developed a schedule for issuing refunds of the 3% employee compensation contributions toward MPSERS retirement health care. ORS provided districts with a data file by January 10 with the most current addresses for retirees, as well as a breakdown of refunds with interest earned. EGRPS will issue refunds to 434 current and former employees in the total amount of \$960K. The majority of teachers will receive a refund in the range of \$3-4K. The district received funds from the ORS today, January 22. The district's goal is to distribute the funds to employees/retirees by the mid February. A paper check method will be used as the smoothest process for payments and to avoid including refunds in a regularly scheduled payroll date. There is a debate on who is responsible for accrued interest earned, as the district did not invest the money, therefore, should not be responsible for potential taxation of interest earned. All Kent County districts are making an effort to follow the same guidelines.

Assistant Superintendent of Instruction

Jenny Fee reported that in the first two weeks of the district's new literacy coach position, 15 teachers have leveraged the opportunity to work with her and this transition is going smoothly. Fee shared an overview of the MLK activities and celebrations that took place throughout the district and the continuing diversity and community services themes that take place throughout the school year.

Board Member Reports

*Communications Committee* – No reports.

*Facilities Committee* – No reports.

*Finance Committee* – No reports.

*Joint Facilities Committee* – No reports.

*Personnel Committee* – Member Bernecker reported that a mid-year update was provided by Dr. Shubel, and the year-end evaluation will be held in April.

*Policy Review Committee* – No reports.

*Legislative Liaison Committee* – Member Welch reported on legislative updates including the ISD enhancement millage, education savings accounts, and other bills which all affect public education. The Governor's State of the State address will be held on Tuesday, January 23<sup>rd</sup>. Welch shared that the statewide study of the trust cost to educate a child rolled out last week and will provide a good discussion point for legislators.

Liaisons

*EGR Schools Foundation* – No reports.

*Community Action Council* – No reports.

*Leadership & Youth Development (LYD)* – Member Hessler reported that he was recently introduced to the program. LYD is recruiting membership support. He received an update on leadership teams.

*Parks & Recreation* – No reports.

*PTO Council* – Member Bernecker reported that a meeting was held today with a discussion on membership promotion, and an update on board items and school-related items was shared.

*Parent Advocates for Special Education (PASE)* – Member Laackman reported that he will attend his first meeting this evening.

*Superintendent's Advisory Council (SAC)* – Member Milanowski reported that a Curriculum and IB Update was shared at SAC.

The next regular board meeting will be held on Monday, February 12, 2018, at 6:00 p.m.

**ADJOURNMENT**

President Bernecker adjourned the meeting at 6:34 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.