

## **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, February 12, 2018**

### **MINUTES**

The **REGULAR MEETING** of the East Grand Rapids Public Schools Board of Education, Kent County, Michigan, was held on Monday, February 12, 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, Beth Milanowski, Robert Wolford, Mark Hessler, Brian Coles, Brad Laackman

Absent: Elizabeth Welch

Administration: Dr. Sara Magaña Shubel, Jenny Fee, Kevin Philipps, Bill Behrendt, Doug Jenkins, Craig Weigel, Steve Wojciechowski, 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.

President Bernecker made a public statement regarding the district's ongoing investigation involving high school teacher and coach, Mr. Nick Hopkins. She shared that the board wants to be as transparent as possible but with the investigation currently ongoing, there are limitations on what can be disclosed. She reported that the superintendent's communication is currently posted on our district website, and a Frequently Asked Questions document will be posted on our district website.

Acknowledgment of Guests – None

Public Comments – President Bernecker explained the ground rules and opened the floor for public comment. Jessica Kane, 3160 Hall Street SE, commented on the district's Title IX investigation.

Board Secretary's Report: Communications to and from the Board – None

Student Council President's Report – Tomer Andegeko, High School Student Council President, reported on the annual school blood drive that the freshman class coordinates, and approximately 70 pints of blood were donated, reaching their goal. Winter Whirl dance took place on Saturday and was well attended. In the next few weeks the junior class will be working on coordinating prom activities.

### **PRESENTATION / DISCUSSION ITEMS**

#### School Day Proposal for Middle School

Anthony Morey, Middle School Principal; Shelly Schram, Middle School Assistant Principal; and middle school teachers: Steve Brinks, Pete Miller, and Danielle Smith presented on the proposed School Day Proposal for the middle school. The background for the proposal of the BRIDGES class to support all students throughout the middle school years was shared. Examples of BRIDGES activities were also shared including existing activities and new opportunities. A detailed overview was provided as described in the Enclosure #6. A discussion was held among the board. The proposal will be presented to the board for approval at the March 12 meeting.

### **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 7-8.

Approval of Minutes of REGULAR Meeting of 1/22/2018 (Enclosure #7)

Approval of Payment of Bills – January 2018 (Enclosure #8)

Member Milanowski moved to approve Consent Agenda items 7-8. Member Hessler seconded the motion. Motion passed 6-0.

## **ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS**

### Superintendent

Dr. Shubel announced that 14 teachers elected to participate in the Early Resignation Incentive:

NAME	YEARS	BLDG	POSITION
Betsy Anderson	28	W	4 <sup>th</sup> Gr. Teacher
Joanne Anderson	32	BD	3 <sup>rd</sup> Gr. Teacher
Mary Billman	20	HS	Science Teacher
Kris Bratlie	30	MS	Science Teacher
Dan Brown	40	MS	Mathematics Teacher
Brian Clay	29	MS	Mathematics Teacher
Theresa Clay	28	MS	English Teacher
Kim Doele	34	MS	English Teacher
Larry Frazier	42	MS	Social Studies Teacher
Bill Larson	28	HS	Science Teacher
Hollie Rademacher	29.5	MS	PE Teacher
Melissa Sayre	33	BD	1 <sup>st</sup> Gr. Teacher
Jane Siegel	29	W	Kindergarten Teacher
Scott Tompkins	25	HS	PE Teacher

### Assistant Superintendent of Business

Kevin Philipps shared an overview of the Governor's preliminary budget with a projected increase in the foundation allowance of \$120-240. The estimated increase in the per-pupil foundation allowance for EGRPS is \$216 which would finally bring us above the 2008 per-pupil amount. Various budget proposal items were presented. Retirement rates were announced with an increase from 25.56% to 26.18%. The Governor's budget proposal allocates School Aid Fund dollars to offset the rate increase, as well as fund the reduction in the assumed rate of return being used by MPERS. It was shared that this is the first step in the budget process, as the House and Senate still need to present their budget proposals. We will know more following the May Revenue Conference.

### Assistant Superintendent of Instruction

Jenny Fee presented a French curriculum update noting that the curriculum is not changing; rather, the transitional changes from middle school to high school will occur over time. She shared an IB offering will be an option for students. A discussion was held among the board.

### Board Member Reports

*Communications Committee* – No reports.

*Facilities Committee* – No reports.

*Finance Committee* – No reports.

*Joint Facilities Committee* – No reports.

*Personnel Committee* – No reports.

*Policy Review Committee* – No reports.

*Legislative Liaison Committee* – No reports.

### Liaisons

*EGR Schools Foundation* – No reports.

*Community Action Council* – No reports.

*Leadership & Youth Development (LYD)* – Member Hessler reported that leadership teams are presenting this week.

*Parks & Recreation* – Member Hessler reported that a meeting is being held this evening.

*PTO Council* – No reports.

*Parent Advocates for Special Education (PASE)* – Member Laackman reported on future workshops for parents with full student care being offered during the training sessions. A parent ambassador is being sought. Assessments on leveling for special education was discussed.

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

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

## **ADJOURNMENT**

President Bernecker adjourned the meeting at 7:31 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.