

## **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, April 16, 2018**

### **MINUTES**

The **REGULAR MEETING** of the East Grand Rapids Public Schools Board of Education, Kent County, Michigan, was held on Monday, April 16, 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, Mark Hessler, Brian Coles

Absent: Brad Laackman, Beth Milanowski, Robert Wolford

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

#### Meeting Called to Order

President Bernecker called the meeting to order at 6:02 p.m.

#### Public Comments

Kirsten Rice – 2863 Beechwood, commented on the proposed ELA K-5 Curriculum Addendum

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

The board received communication on a FOIA from WOODTV.

The board received communication on the Pre-Labor Day Start from Sue Keil which included a petition for consideration.

The board received communication on diversity in staff hiring from the Steering Committee for EGR Neighbors for Inclusion and Equity.

Member Laackman arrived at 6:04 p.m.

Student Council President's Report – No reports

### **PRESENTATION / DISCUSSION ITEMS**

#### Recognition of Greater Grand Rapids Spelling Bee Winner – Anthony Morey

Anthony Morey, Middle School Principal, announced that Jack Lado, EGRMS student, placed first in the Greater Grand Rapids Spelling Bee competition and will be representing West Michigan at the 2018 Scripps National Spelling Bee in Washington, D.C. in May. The board congratulated Jack on his accomplishment and presented him with a certificate of recognition.

Member Milanowski arrived at 6:08 p.m.

#### Recognition of Michigan Interscholastic Athletic Administrators Association (MIAAA) Exemplary Status Award to EGR Athletics (Enclosure #6)

Craig Weigel, High School Principal, congratulated Tim Johnston and the EGRHS Athletic Department on receiving the MIAAA Exemplary Status Award. Johnston provided the background and overview of the efforts of the committee involved in being recommended for this award. The recommendation process recognizes extensive data collection, the district's vision and mission, sportsmanship, communication, parent involvement, policies and procedures, etc. The board congratulated Johnston and the athletic department on receiving this award on behalf of the district.

#### Recognition of Teacher and Staff Appreciation: April 30-May 4

Dr. Shubel announced that Teacher and Staff Appreciation Week is April 30-May 4, 2018, and she thanked our teachers and support staff for their dedication and commitment to our students. President Bernecker expressed her appreciation and thanked all staff members on behalf of the board.

First Read of Revised Policies (Enclosure #8)

Dr. Shubel presented the policies that were reviewed by the Policy Review Committee as presented. A discussion was held among the board and these policies will be presented for approval at the May 14 board meeting.

ELA K-5 Curriculum Addendum (Enclosure #9)

Jenny Fee, Assistant Superintendent of Instruction; and Carlye Allen, Wealthy Elementary Principal, presented on the proposed EKA K-5 Curriculum Addendum. The background for the proposal was shared and a detailed overview was provided. A discussion was held among the board. The proposal will be presented to the board for approval at the May 14 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 10-15.

Approval of Minutes of REGULAR Meeting of 3/12/2018 (Enclosure #10)

Approval of Minutes of SPECIAL Meeting of 3/26/2018 (Enclosure #11)

Approval of Minutes of SPECIAL Meeting of 04/10/2018 (Enclosure #12)

Approval of Payment of Bills – March 2018 (Enclosure #13)

Approval of Elementary Science Curriculum Proposal (Enclosure #14)

Acceptance of Grants from the East Grand Rapids Schools Foundation (Enclosure #15)

Member Hessler moved to approve Consent Agenda items 10-15. Member Welch seconded the motion. Motion passed 6-0.

**ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS**

Superintendent

Dr. Shubel reported that she is looking forward to supporting our high school students at the We The People National Competition in Washington, D.C. and will keep the board updated on their progress. She encouraged everyone to attend the EGR Schools Foundation *Sip and Support* fundraiser on Saturday, April 21.

Assistant Superintendent of Business

Kevin Philipps shared an overview of the School Aid Fund budget proposals comparing the Governor's, House, and Senate proposals. The estimated financial impact on EGRPS will result in a positive impact of approximately \$215 per-pupil. A discussion was held among the board.

Philipps reported on the 2018-2019 health care rates reflecting a 2.5% increase to premiums across the West Michigan Health Insurance Pool (WMHIP). The average increase is around 4.3%. The Finance Committee reviewed options on scheduling the increases and supports the recommendation of the 6/12 month option which will allow participants in the pool to benefit from a cap on the increase starting January 1. He shared information on MESSA rates as a comparison.

Assistant Superintendent of Instruction

Jenny Fee reported that the High School First Robotics Team competed this past weekend and will attend the State Competition again this year and wished them well in the upcoming competition.

Board Member Reports

*Communications Committee* – No reports.

*Facilities Committee* – No reports.

*Finance Committee* – No reports.

*Joint Facilities Committee* – Member Bernecker reported that the next meeting is scheduled for May 7.

*Personnel Committee* – No reports.

*Policy Review Committee* – No reports.

*Legislative Liaison Committee* – Member Welch reported that a Town Hall meeting will be held in the fall with primary election candidates.

Liaisons

*EGR Schools Foundation*–Member Bernecker reported on the *Sip and Support* fundraiser, EGRNow! campaign, and the approval of Foundation grants.

*Community Action Council* – No reports.

*Leadership & Youth Development (LYD)* – Member Milanowski reported that current programs are moving forward, and a membership drive will be held next month for board involvement.

*Parks & Recreation* – No reports.

*PTO Council* – Member Bernecker reported that officers were announced for next school year. She shared that the Kim Rossi, Chair of the Community Action Council distributed highlights from the 2018 MI Profile for Healthy Youth survey and encouraged everyone to view the full report. Music events will be held in April and May and are published on building calendars.

*Parent Advocates for Special Education (PASE)* – Member Laackman reported that he has scheduled time to meet with Bill Behrendt, Director of Special Education, to receive updates and stay informed.

*Superintendent's Advisory Council (SAC)* – No reports. There are no further meetings scheduled for this school year.

Member Welch provided an update on the Superintendent Search process. Future board meeting dates are published on the district website, and a community forum will be held on Tuesday, April 24 at 6pm in the High School Little Auditorium. The forum will be facilitated by Dr. Rod Green, MASB Executive Search Consultant. A board meeting will be held following the community forum to review stakeholder input. An online survey is also available for input. President Bernecker shared that all community input from the survey goes directly to MASB, as well as candidate applicant information. Applicant information remains confidential and is only shared when interviews are determined.

The board took a recess at 7:25 p.m.

The board returned from recess at 7:35 p.m.

### **OTHER ACTION ITEMS**

#### Superintendents' End-Year Evaluation (Enclosure #20)

The board held a general discussion and review of the superintendent's progress versus goals collaboratively established and adopted with the Board of Education as presented. President Bernecker shared that the board has thoroughly evaluated Dr. Shubel twice on an annual basis for the past 12 years, and this evaluation was conducted using the MASB Superintendent's Evaluation tool, which resulted in a Highly Effective rating for Dr. Shubel's final evaluation. Dr. Shubel shared that her goals are truly a collaborative effort by administrators, teachers, and staff culminating in a celebration of the great accomplishments achieved throughout the district. President Bernecker applauded Dr. Shubel on her leadership during her tenure and also recognized the administrative team and staff throughout the district for their amazing work with our students and always having their best interest in mind.

The board conducted the evaluation utilizing the MASB evaluation tool which resulted in a Highly Effective rating for Dr. Shubel. The board shared their appreciation for Dr. Shubel's leadership and accomplishments and recognizes that it will be a difficult task to replace her following her retirement.

Member Bernecker moved to rate the superintendent as Highly Effective on the evaluation. Member Laackman seconded the motion. Motion passed 6-0.

The next regular board meeting will be held on Monday, May 14, 2018, at 6:00 p.m.

### **ADJOURNMENT**

President Bernecker adjourned the meeting at 8:29 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.