

## **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, June 11, 2018**

### **MINUTES**

The **REGULAR MEETING** of the East Grand Rapids Public Schools Board of Education, Kent County, Michigan, was held on Monday, June 11, 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, Mark Hessler, Brian Coles, Brad Laackman

Absent: Robert Wolford

Administration: Dr. Sara Magaña Shubel, 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 6:02 p.m.

#### Public Comments

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

The board received a Thank You note from the High School Yearbook Committee for placing an ad in this year's Yearbook. The board received a Thank You note from Kris Bratlie, middle school teacher, for the clock on her retirement.

Student Council President's Report – Tomer Andegeko introduced Will Marsh as next year's Student Council President. Will shared that he is excited to represent the Student Council in the 2018-2019 school year.

#### Recognition of Boys Lacrosse State Championships

Tim Johnston, High School Athletic Director, announced the district's 132<sup>nd</sup> State Championship and congratulated the Boys Lacrosse Team on this honor. Johnston shared several highlights of the team's season. All coaches and members of the team were congratulated by the board and presented with certificates of recognition.

### **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 4-26.

Approval of Minutes of REGULAR Meeting of 5/14/2018 (Enclosure #4)

Approval of Minutes of SPECIAL Meeting of 5/31/2018 (Enclosure #5)

Approval of Minutes of BUDGET HEARING of 6/4/2018 (Enclosure #6)

Appointment of Legal Counsel (Enclosure #8)

Authorize the Superintendent or Assistant Superintendent of Business to Transfer Budget Line Funds (Enclosure #9)

Designation of Depositories (Enclosure #10)

Authorize the Superintendent, Assistant Superintendent of Business, and Board Treasurer to Sign Checks (Enclosure #11)

Authorize the Superintendent of Schools or his/her Designee to Hire, Accept Resignations, Approve Leaves of Absence, and to Terminate Employment for Certificated Staff (Enclosure #12)

Authorize the Superintendent or Assistant Superintendent of Business to Hire, Accept Resignations, Approve Leaves of Absence, and to Terminate, When Necessary, Support Personnel (Enclosure #13)

Authorize the Superintendent or Assistant Superintendent of Business to Invest Funds (Enclosure #14)

Authorize the Superintendent or Assistant Superintendent of Business to Transfer Funds (Enclosure #15)

Authorize District to Utilize Electronic Transactions of Funds (Enclosure #16)

Authorize the Superintendent or Assistant Superintendent of Business to Transfer Funds between the General Fund to/from the Food Service Fund, Recreational Millage Fund, Sinking Fund/Building & Site, Joint Facilities Fund, or Student Activity Fund, and to Make Fund Modifications as Necessary (Enclosure #17)  
Authorization for Signatures on Checking Accounts (Enclosure #18)  
Appointment of Auditors (Enclosure #19)  
Adoption of the Summer Tax Collection (Enclosure #20)  
Authorization to Approve Letters of Agreement with EGREA and EGRASE (Enclosure #21)  
Resolution for Membership in Michigan High School Athletic Association (Enclosure #22)  
Approval of Board of Education Memberships and Dues  
Approval for Board of Education Members to attend any or all MASB, MASA, or KIASB conferences and activities  
Official Meeting Dates for the 2017-2018 School Year (Enclosure #25)  
Periodicals for the Board of Education

Member Hessler moved to approve Consent Agenda items 4-26. Member Coles seconded the motion. Motion passed 6-0.

#### **OTHER ACTION ITEMS**

Approval of 2018-2019 General Fund Budget (Enclosure #27a-c)  
Kevin Philipps, Assistant Superintendent of Business, presented the recommendation for the 2018-2019 General Fund Budget as presented.

Member Coles moved to approve the 2018-2019 General Fund Budget as presented. Member Laackman seconded the motion. A discussion was held among the board. Motion passed 6-0.

Approval of 2018-2019 Budget for the Sinking Fund (Enclosure #27a-c)  
Kevin Philipps presented the recommendation for the 2018-2019 Budget for the Sinking Fund.

Member Coles moved to approve the 2018-2019 Budget for the Sinking Fund. Member Laackman seconded the motion. Motion passed 6-0.

Approval of 2018-2019 Budget for Debt Retirement (Enclosure #27a-c)  
Kevin Philipps presented the recommendation for the 2018-2019. Budget for Debt Retirement.

Member Coles moved to approve the 2018-2019 Budget for Debt Retirement as presented. Member Laackman seconded the motion. Motion passed 6-0.

Approval of 2017-2018 Final Budget Amendments (Enclosure #28)  
Kevin Philipps presented the 2017-2018 Final Budget Amendments.

Member Coles moved to approve the 2017-2018 Final Budget Amendments as recommended by the Finance Committee and presented. Member Milanowski seconded the motion. A discussion was held among the board. Motion passed 6-0.

Approval of State Aid Loan Resolution (Enclosure #29)  
Kevin Philipps presented details of the State Aid Loan Resolution.

Member Hessler moved to approve the State Aid Loan Resolution as presented. Member Welch seconded the motion. A discussion was held among the board. Motion passed 6-0.

Approval of 2018-2019 Teacher Contracts (Enclosure #30)  
Dr. Shubel announced that the district has hired three additional teachers as listed in Enclosure #30.

Member Bernecker moved to approve the Teacher Contracts as presented. Member Coles seconded the motion. Motion passed 6-0.

Approval of Administrative and Non-Union Salaries for 2018-2019 (Enclosure #31)  
Background: The Personnel Committee is recommending contract and salary provisions for Administrative and Non-Union personnel.  
Recommendation: Motion to approve the contract and salary provisions for Administrative and Non-Union personnel as recommended by the Personnel Committee.

Philipps provided an overview of the salary provisions as presented.

Member Bernecker moved to approve the contract and salary provisions for Administrative and Non-Union personnel as recommended by the Personnel Committee as presented. Member Milanowski seconded the motion. Motion passed 6-0.

Approval of School Bond Loan Resolution (Enclosure #32)

Background: The district borrows annually from the School Bond Loan Program to assist in making our debt retirement payments. The application for the 2018-2019 borrowing needs to be approved by the full Board.

Recommendation: Motion to approve the resolution authorizing the district to borrow funds from the Michigan School Bond Loan Program as presented.

Philipps provided an overview of the School Bond Loan Program.

Member Laackman moved to approve the resolution as presented. Member Hessler seconded the motion. Motion passed 6-0.

Approval of Authorized Resolution for Sale and Refunding of Bonds (Enclosure #33)

Background: Administration is requesting authority to work with its partners to sale the remaining \$13.5 million in bond authority granted by the community in May 2014. The sale of these bonds will fund the building renovations scheduled for the summer of 2019 and 2020, and also provide funding for replacement and enhancement of district technology. In addition, administration is requesting authority to refund \$2.1 million in bonds remaining from the 2007 and 2008 bond sales to lower overall interest costs for the community.

Recommendation: Motion to approve the resolution authorizing the administration to enter into a sale of bonds in the amount of \$13.5 million, and enter into a refunding of the remaining 2007 and 2008 bonds totaling \$2.1 million.

Kevin Philipps provided background information on the projected sale of \$13.5 million in bonds from the authority approved by the community in May 2014. The pricing of the bond sale is scheduled for August 8; board approval is scheduled for August 14, and closing on the bonds would be August 29. In addition, \$2.1 million in bonds from the 2007 and 2008 bond sales will be funded at the same time. Administration recommends hiring Stifel, Nicolaus, & Co, as the bond underwriter, Public Financial Management (PFM) as financial advisor, and Thrun Law as the bond counsel.

Member Laackman moved to approve the resolution authorizing the administration to enter into a sale of bonds in the amount of \$13.5 million, and enter into a refunding of the remaining 2007 and 2008 bonds totaling \$2.1 million. Member Bernecker seconded the motion. Motion passed 6-0.

Approval of PASE Representative

Background: Each Kent ISD school district is requested to nominate a representative to serve on the Parent Advisors for Special Education (PASE) committee.

Recommendation: Motion to approve the nomination of Carol Lippert to serve as the representative for EGRPS on the PASE committee.

Member Bernecker moved to approve the nomination of Carol Lippert to serve as the representative for EGRPS on the PASE committee. Member Welch seconded the motion. Motion passed 6-0.

**ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS**

Superintendent

Dr. Shubel announced that the EGR Department of Public Safety requested to use our high school facility for an active shooter training, three days in length, from July 11-13, 2018. She reported that appropriate communications will be shared with the community in advance of the activities that will be taking place. Volunteers will be sought to participate in the drills.

Dr. Shubel asked Anthony Morey, Middle School Principal, to provide an update on middle school student, Jack Lado's experience in the Scripps National Spelling Bee. Morey reported that middle school staff and students provided Jack with a huge sendoff as he left for the competition and watched with excitement as Jack's competition was aired on ESPN. Jack had a great time in this exciting journey.

Dr. Shubel shared highlights of the school year which included many celebrations and accomplishments that focused on the development of the whole child. We look forward to continuing our learning with staff during Summer Learning sessions.

Dr. Shubel announced that in addition to this evening's contract approvals there still remain a couple of new hires to fill open positions, and we are currently in the process of interviewing candidates. We look forward to welcoming new staff members to our district in the fall.

Dr. Shubel reported that Breton Downs' teacher, Vikki Boersma, has been approved to take a leave of absence for the 2018-2019 school year to care for her family following a serious car accident. The district staff and board wish Vikki and her family well.

Dr. Shubel thanked the board for hosting the retirement celebration last week and shared that she was incredibly humbled by the scholarship organized in her name and is excited to see how the funds are utilized in the future. She shared that it has been an honor to work with all of the board members and staff throughout her years in EGRPS.

Assistant Superintendent of Business – No reports.

Assistant Superintendent of Instruction – No reports.

Board Member Reports

*Communications Committee* – Member Milanowski reported that the committee will be working on future communications.

*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* – President Bernecker reported that student scholarships were announced at the high school honors assembly. She expressed appreciation for the work and guidance from the Foundation board. Teacher recognitions will be announced in August.

*Community Action Council* – No reports.

*Leadership & Youth Development (LYD)* – Member Hessler reported that discussions were held on changes for the future and an electronic payment option will soon be available.

*Parks & Recreation* – No reports.

*PTO Council* – President Bernecker reported that the annual luncheon was held in May.

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

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

Member Bernecker expressed her appreciation and thanked Dr. Shubel for all her work during her tenure in EGRPS. The board presented Dr. Shubel with a gift of recognition and appreciation for her years of service in EGRPS and wished her well in her retirement.

**ADJOURNMENT**

President Bernecker adjourned the meeting at 6:55 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.