

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, December 4, 2017

MINUTES

The **REGULAR MEETING** of the East Grand Rapids Public Schools Board of Education, Kent County, Michigan, was held on Monday, December 4, 2017, in Community Board Room at the James E. Morse Administration Center, 2915 Hall Street SE, East Grand Rapids, MI 49506.

BOARD OF EDUCATION

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

Absent: Beth Milanowski

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

Acknowledgment of Guests – President Wolford recognized Jeff Dills, City Commissioner, who was present at tonight’s meeting.

Public Comments – None

Board Secretary’s Report: Communications to and from the Board

The Board received a Thank You note from Casey Longo, middle school teacher, for the Schuler gift card on the birth of his daughter, Simone.

The Board received a Thank You note from Whitney Moore, Lakeside Elementary teacher, for the Schuler gift card on the birth of her daughter, Cali Anne.

The Board sent a letter to Representative Chris Afendoulis in opposition of Senate Bills 584-586 and 366.

Student Council President’s Report

Tomer Andegeko, Student Council President, reported on the Veteran’s Day assembly which involved the whole student body. He shared that the students raised \$3,000 in support of Hurricane Harvey victims at a Houston area high school. An additional \$3,000 was raised from the arts and craft show. The Food Drive is coming up where students will be encouraged to fill a bag in each classroom to benefit 35 families in the community.

Craig Weigel, High School Principal, announced that Tomer was selected as the tuba player for the Michigan School Band and Orchestra Association All-State High School Honors Orchestra. Only one student in the state is selected for this position from all auditions submitted. Tomer was congratulated by the board and presented with a certificate of recognition.

PRESENTATION / DISCUSSION ITEMS

Recognition of Quiz Bowl Team

Craig Weigel, High School Principal, announced that the high school Quiz Bowl team qualified for the NAQT National Championship. Four students who qualified, Jagienka Timek, Ben Sagritalo, Ben Lilly, and Paige Lang, along with their coach, Brian VanderBee, will attend the

national event to be held in Atlanta, GA on this honor. VanderBee shared highlights of the team's season. The team was congratulated by the board and presented with certificates of recognition.

Recognition of Swim & Dive State Championship

Tim Johnston, Director of Athletics, announced the district's 131st State Championship and congratulated the Girls Swim and Dive 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. Coach Butch Briggs was named as Coach of the Year, and Ileah Doctor was named Swimmer of the Year by the Michigan Swim Coaches Association.

First Robotics Team Presentation

Doug Jenkins, Director of Technology and Assessment, welcomed 2017-2018 First Robotics team members, parents, and coaches who presented on the club's successes and goals. High school student presenters included Clara Luce, Anton Ludwig, Otis Dills, and Jagienka Timek. Parent presenters included Jeff Dills, Rick and Stacy Shorey, and James Strodbeck. An overview was shared of the robotics program, their mission, mentoring and learning from other countries and cultures, as well as how the team supports women in STEM fields through community outreach. The board congratulated the team on their successes and thanked them for presenting this evening.

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 9-10.

Approval of Minutes of REGULAR Meeting of 10/23/2017 (Enclosure #9)

Approval of Payment of Bills – October/November 2017 (Enclosure #10)

Member Welch moved to approve Consent Agenda items 9-10. Member Coles seconded the motion. Motion passed 6-0.

OTHER ACTION ITEMS

Election of 2018 Board Member Officer Positions – Robert Wolford

President Wolford provided background information on the election of board member officers and commended the board on their commitment and dedication as evidenced by their willingness to serve in leadership positions on the board. Wolford reported that the board officer terms are from January 1 thru December 31, 2018.

President

Member Wolford moved that Member Bernecker serve as President beginning January 2018. Member Hessler seconded the motion. There were no other nominations. Motion passed 6-0.

Vice President

Member Laackman moved that Member Welch serve as Vice President beginning January 2018. Member Bernecker seconded the motion. There were no other nominations. Motion passed 6-0.

Treasurer

Member Bernecker moved that Member Coles serve as Treasurer beginning January 2018. Member Hessler seconded the motion. There were no other nominations. Motion passed 6-0.

Secretary

Member Hessler moved that Member Milanowski serve as Secretary beginning January 2018. Member Welch seconded the motion. There were no other nominations. Motion passed 6-0.

Approval of a 2-Year Contract Extension with the East Grand Rapids Education Association (EGREA) (Enclosure #12)

Background: The East Grand Rapids Education Association (EGREA) and the administration have negotiated a 2-Year Contract Extension.

Recommendation: Motion to approve the 2-Year Contract Extension with the East Grand Rapids Education Association (EGREA) upon the recommendation of the superintendent.

Dr. Shubel reported that the EGREA ratified the 2-year contract extension. Kevin Philipps, Assistant Superintendent of Business, provided an overview of the 2-year contract extension with the EGREA, resulting in a contract expiration date of June 30, 2020. The contract extension includes revisions to the negotiated compensation formula, additional options for medical care through MESSA, an attendance incentive stipend, a shift in paydays to the 2nd and 4th Fridays, and an Early Resignation Incentive Plan, as well as calendars for 2018/2019 and 2019/2020. Philipps and the board thanked Mary Elderkin, EGREA President, and her team for their collaborative work in developing a contract extension. A discussion was held among the board.

Member Hessler moved to approve the 2-Year Contract Extension with the East Grand Rapids Education Association (EGREA) as presented. Member Bernecker seconded the motion. Motion passed 6-0.

Approval of a Resolution in Opposition of Senate Bills 584-586 and 366 (Enclosure #13)

Background: The proposed resolution is intended to oppose Senate Bills 584-586 and 366, as a public school district is tasked with providing for the safety and welfare of its students and to educate students in a safety and nurturing environment.

Recommendation: Motion to approve the resolution to oppose Senate Bills 584-586 and 366 as presented.

Member Welch shared background information on the resolution presented and the letter written by the board to Representative Chris Afendoulis. She shared in further detail the highlights of the proposed bills that passed the Senate.

Member Wolford moved to approve the resolution in opposition of Senate Bills 584-586 and 366 as presented. Member Laackman seconded the motion. Motion passed 6-0.

ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS

Superintendent

Dr. Shubel shared how pleased she is that our board supports special recognitions of our students and their accomplishments and enjoyed celebrating with the students this evening.

Dr. Shubel reported that the EGR Schools Foundation funded over \$62,000 in grant requests during the fall grant cycle. She expressed sincere appreciation on behalf of the board and staff for the grants awarded to enhance district teaching and learning.

Dr. Shubel reported that the 2017 Community Budget Guide was sent to all EGRPS families. The district's goal continues to be transparent regarding our budget, and the guide has been found to be a valuable communication tool for our community.

Dr. Shubel reported that the All Staff Holiday Breakfast will be held on Wednesday, December 20, 2017.

Dr. Shubel reported that the Curriculum Workshop will be held on January 8, 2018, at 5:00 p.m.

Assistant Superintendent of Business – No reports.

Assistant Superintendent of Instruction

Jenny Fee reported that the literacy coaching pilot as part of the 3rd Grade Reading legislation compliance, will begin in December with Katie McIntosh, Lakeside third grade teacher, transitioning into the coach position in December/January.

Board Member Reports

President Wolford shared that board committee assignments will be coordinated later this week and new assignments will begin in January.

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

Leadership & Youth Development (LYD) – No reports

Community Action Council – No reports

Parks & Recreation – Member Hessler reported that several events were approved and great feedback was received on the middle school regatta.

PTO Council – Member Wolford reported that a meeting was held in November.

Superintendent's Advisory Council – Member Coles reported the November meeting included a presentation by Jenny Fee on diversity.

Parent Advocates for Special Education (PASE) – Member Bernecker reported that a meeting is being held this evening, and Bill Behrendt, Director of Special Education, is attending and will share updates with Member Bernecker.

Dr. Shubel thanked President Wolford for his leadership as the board president and his service on the board and looks forward to continuing to work with him in his trustee role. She shared that she also looks forward to working with Member Bernecker in her new role as the board president.

The next regular board meeting will be held on Monday, January 22, 2018, at 6:00 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT

President Wolford adjourned the meeting at 7:13 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Natalie Bernecker, Secretary Pro-Tem
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.