

## **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

**Wednesday, January 30, 2019**

### **MINUTES**

The **REGULAR MEETING** of the East Grand Rapids Public Schools Board of Education, Kent County, Michigan, was held on Wednesday, January 30, 2019, in the Community Board Room at the James E. Morse Administration Center, 2915 Hall Street SE, Grand Rapids, MI 49506.

### **BOARD OF EDUCATION**

Present: Natalie Bernecker, Elizabeth Welch, Beth Milanowski, Brad Laackman, Mark Hessler, Mike Reid, Janice Yates  
Absent: None  
Administration: Dr. Heidi Kattula, Kevin Philipps, Jenny Fee, Bill Behrendt, Doug Jenkins, Craig Weigel, Steve Wojciechowski, Lori Johnston, Tim Johnston, Anthony Morey, Shelly Schram, Carlye Allen, Caroline Breault-Cannon

#### Meeting Called to Order

President Bernecker called the meeting to order at 4:13 p.m.

Public Comments – None

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

The board received a Thank You note from Renee Rowan, Lakeside kindergarten teacher, for the Schuler gift card on the birth of her son, Camden.

The board received communications on school closings from Kathy Zago and Scott Gorsline.

Student Council President's Report – No reports.

### **PRESENTATION / DISCUSSION**

#### School Board Recognition Month

On behalf of the administrative team, Dr. Kattula 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**

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 6-8.

Approval of Minutes of REGULAR Meeting of 12/03/2018 (Enclosure #6)

Approval of Minutes of SPECIAL Meeting of 01/14/2019 (Enclosure #7)

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

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

### **OTHER ACTION ITEMS**

Approval of Construction Bids – 2019 Bond Program – Kevin Philipps (Enclosure #9)

Background: Administration in collaboration with its architectural and construction management partners, have requested bids for the construction projects to be completed this spring and summer at the high school, middle school, and Woodcliff. Bids were received, and after reviewing all of the bids, administration is requesting approval of the bids being presented. The total amount of the bids is \$5,405,032. The bids have been reviewed by the Facilities Committee and Superintendent, and they recommend accepting the bids.

Recommendation: Motion to approve the bids for the high school, middle school, and Woodcliff construction totaling \$5,405,032 as recommended by the Facilities Committee and Superintendent.

Kevin Philipps, Assistant Superintendent of Business, provided an overview of the construction bids pertaining to the 2019 Bond Program. Philipps introduced Jeremy Amshey, Construction Manager with OAK, who reported on the bids obtained and the recommendations. Amshey reported that the work would begin in May and should be completed by the end of August. A discussion was held among the board.

Member Hessler moved to approve the bids for the high school, middle school, and Woodcliff construction totaling \$5,405,032. Member Welch seconded the motion. Motion passed 7-0.

Approval of a Resolution to Call May 7, 2019, Election for Non-Homestead Renewal—Kevin Philipps (Enclosure #10)

Background: The district's non-homestead millage expires at the end of the 2019 tax year. The millage is currently Headlee reduced below 18 mills. The proposed election would renew the current non-homestead millage levy for four (4) years and asks the community to support 3 mill of override authority to ensure the district is not further Headlee reduced below 18 mills. The Finance Committee has reviewed the proposed resolution and recommends approval.

Recommendation: Motion to approve the resolution to call the May 7, 2019, election as recommended by the Finance Committee.

Philipps provided an overview of the May 7, 2019, Election for Non-Homestead renewal. A discussion was held among the board and it was stressed that it will be important to communicate to voters that this is a millage renewal, not a new millage.

Member Bernecker moved to approve the resolution to call the May 7, 2019, election as recommended by the Finance Committee. Member Laackman seconded the motion. Motion passed 7-0.

Approval of Schools of Choice Resolutions for 2019-2020 – Dr. Kattula (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 1996-1997 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 1996-1997 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 non-resident 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 2019-2020 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 2019-2010 school year. Member Yates seconded the motion. Motion passed 7-0.

b. Approval of a Resolution to Opt Out 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 not accept applications for enrollment from residents of contiguous intermediate school districts for the 2019-2020 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 not accept applications for enrollment from residents of contiguous intermediate school districts for the 2019-2020 school year.

Member Laackman moved to approve a Resolution to Opt Out of Section 105c for the 2019-2010 school year. Member Hessler seconded the motion. Motion passed 7-0.

c. Approval of a Resolution to Participate in the 2019-2020 Kent Intermediate School District Collaborative Schools of Choice Program

Background: This is the 16th 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 2019-2020 school year.

Member Milanowski moved to approve a Resolution to participate in the Kent ISD Collaborative Schools of Choice Program for the 2019-2010 school year. Member Yates seconded the motion. Motion passed 7-0.

## **ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS**

### Superintendent

Dr. Kattula shared an overview of 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.

Dr. Kattula reported that Mr. Bill Behrendt, Director of Special Education, has submitted his resignation, as he has accepted a position with Kent ISD. She shared that this is a tremendous loss for the district; however, we are excited to have Mr. Behrendt continue to service our district through his work with the ISD, and she thanked him for his years of service to EGRPS. President Bernecker also thanked Mr. Behrendt and commended him on his knowledge, service, and dedication to EGRPS during his tenure.

### Assistant Superintendent of Business

Kevin Philipps reported on the January Revenue Conference summarizing the results and shared School Aid Fund projections, as well as budget forecasts for EGRPS. Additional information will be available when the Governor presents her proposed budget for 2019-2020, which is scheduled to be presented in early March. As we learn more, Philipps will provide an update on the budget and what that will mean for the EGRPS 2019-2020 budget. EGRPS is currently estimating a \$150 per-pupil increase in our budget forecast for 2019-2020. A discussion was held among the board.

### Assistant Superintendent of Instruction

No reports.

### Board Member Reports

*Communications Committee* – No reports.

*Facilities Committee* – Member Hessler reported that construction bids were reviewed and approved this evening.

*Finance Committee* – Member Laackman reported that the next meeting will be held in February.

*Joint Facilities Committee* – No reports.

*Personnel Committee* – No reports.

*Policy Review Committee* – No reports.

### Liaisons

*Community Action Council* – Member Yates reported that the *Tall Cop* presentation exceeded expectations. She has a meeting scheduled this week.

*EGR Schools Foundation* – Member Laackman reported that communications are going out regarding EGRNow&Forever.

*Legislative Liaison Committee* – Member Welch reported that the committee is reviewing reports, and a meeting will be held on February 13.

*Parks & Recreation* – Member Hessler reported that the next meeting will be held in February.

*PTO Council* – Member Bernecker reported that meetings were canceled due to the Snow/Ice days. Updates will be provided after the February meeting.

*Parent Advocates for Special Education (PASE)* – Member Reid reported that he is scheduled to meet with Bill Behrendt tomorrow.

*Leadership & Youth Development (LYD)* – Member Milanowski reported that the group would like to support *Tall Cop* returning in 18 months. Voting took place on new programming. Pioneer Partners is being planned. Students are submitting applications to the youth advisory board. Senior Retreat and Freshman Connection will remain in place.

*Superintendent's Advisory Council (SAC)* – Member Milanowski reported that the January meeting was canceled due to school closing.

## **ADJOURNMENT**

President Bernecker adjourned the meeting at 4:50 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. Heidi S. Kattula, Ed.D., Superintendent, at 235-3535.