

## Our Mission

*Educating and inspiring each student  
to navigate successfully  
in a global community*

## EAST GRAND RAPIDS PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Kent County, Michigan

### SPECIAL 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, May 8, 2019

### MINUTES

The **SPECIAL MEETING** of the East Grand Rapids Public Schools Board of Education, Kent County, Michigan, was held on Wednesday, May 8, 2019, in the 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, Brad Laackman, Mark Hessler, Mike Reid, Janice Yates  
Absent: None  
Administration: Dr. Heidi S. Kattula, Jenny Fee, Craig Weigel, Steve Wojciechowski  
Other: Parents of Student 05082019 and Guests

#### Meeting Called to Order

President Bernecker called the meeting to order at 3:33 p.m.

#### Public Comments – None

President Bernecker described the process that would be used for the student discipline hearing concerning Student 05082019. President Bernecker also described the difference between an open and closed hearing.

Parents of Student 05082019, and Student 05082019 attended today's hearing. Parents requested in writing that the meeting be held in Closed Session.

#### Closed Session per Parent Request (Michigan Open Meetings Act, MCLA 15.268, Sec. 8 [b])

Member Yates moved to go into Closed Session for the purpose of a student discipline hearing at the request of the parents. Member Laackman supported the motion. By a roll call vote, the motion passed 7-0.

Following the information that was presented, high school administrators, parents, and guests were dismissed during the board's deliberations.

#### Open Session

At 5:25 p.m., Member Welch moved to return to Regular Session. Member Hessler supported the motion. The motion passed 7-0.

High school administrators, parents, and guests rejoined the meeting during Open Session.

President Bernecker reported that the board determined, by consensus, that Student 05082019 will receive a long-term suspension from East Grand Rapids Public Schools for the remainder of the 2018-2019 school year, through June 6, 2019, for violation of Board Policy 8350.

President Bernecker reported that the Board's decision would be provided to the parents of Student 05082019 in writing along with their rights to appeal the decision.

#### Any other matters that come before the Board – None

### **ADJOURNMENT**

With no further business before the Board, President Bernecker adjourned the special meeting at 5:25 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 616-235-3535.

\*\* If you plan to attend and have a special need and require accommodation to attend this meeting, please contact Dr. Heidi S. Kattula, Superintendent, at 616-235-3535.

jmm 05/08/2019