

## **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 3, 2018**

### **MINUTES**

The **REGULAR MEETING** of the East Grand Rapids Public Schools Board of Education, Kent County, Michigan, was held on Monday, December 3, 2018, 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, Brian Coles, Mark Hessler, Brad Laackman, Robert Wolford

Absent:

Administration: Dr. Heidi Kattula, Kevin Philipps, Jenny Fee, Doug Jenkins, Craig Weigel, Steve Wojciechowski, Lori Johnston, Tim Johnston, Anthony Morey, Shelly Schram, Carlye Allen, Stephanie Thelen

#### Meeting Called to Order

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

#### Public Comments – None

Board Secretary's Report: Communications to and from the Board – None

#### Student Council President's Report

Steve Wojciechowski, High School Assistant Principal, reported on behalf of Student Council and shared that the Annual Food Drive will begin on December 10 where students collect food donations and purchase gifts for families in need as recommended by Arbor Circle. The students do a great job of providing support for families in our community.

#### **PRESENTATION / DISCUSSION**

##### Recognition of Girls' Cross Country State Championship

Tim Johnston, Director of Athletics, announced the district's 133<sup>rd</sup> State Championship and congratulated the Girls' Cross Country 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.

##### Recognition of Girls' Swim & Dive State Championship

Tim Johnston, Director of Athletics, announced the district's 134<sup>th</sup> 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.

President Bernecker reported that the order of tonight's agenda is adjusted to accommodate the replacement of a projector bulb which was needed for the onscreen presentation portion of the agenda.

##### Recognition of Board of Education Members, Brian Coles and Robert Wolford

President Bernecker announced that Brian Coles and Bob Wolford will be departing from their roles as EGRPS board members. She thanked Brian for his four years of service, and Bob for his five years of service to the EGRPS Board of Education and commended them for their dedication and commitment to the students, staff, and community. Both members were presented with a gift from the board.

#### **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 10/22/2018 (Enclosure #9)  
Approval of Payment of Bills – October/November 2018 (Enclosure #10)

Member Milanowski moved to approve Consent Agenda items 9-10. Member Hessler seconded the motion. Motion passed 7-0.

### **CONTINUATION OF PRESENTATION / DISCUSSION**

#### High School Guidance Report (Enclosure #7)

Lori Johnston, High School Director of Guidance, reported on guidance services, course offerings, as well as a history of EGRHS student performance. She shared statistics on college applications and acceptance numbers, postsecondary plans, ACT/SAT scores indicating college readiness, as well as historical data. An overview of the Guidance Department structure was reviewed. Johnston shared that additional information can be found on the high school guidance department web page. A discussion was held among the board.

### **OTHER ACTION ITEMS**

#### Election of 2019 Board Member Officer Positions – Natalie Bernecker

President Bernecker 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. Bernecker reported that the board officer terms are from January 1 thru December 31, 2019.

#### President

Member Wolford moved that Member Bernecker serve as President beginning January 2019. Member Hessler seconded the motion. There were no other nominations. Motion passed 7-0.

#### Vice President

Member Milanowski moved that Member Welch serve as Vice President beginning January 2019. Member Coles seconded the motion. There were no other nominations. Motion passed 7-0.

#### Treasurer

Member Welch moved that Member Laackman serve as Treasurer beginning January 2019. Member Bernecker seconded the motion. There were no other nominations. Motion passed 7-0.

#### Secretary

Member Hessler moved that Member Milanowski serve as Secretary beginning January 2019. Member Bernecker seconded the motion. There were no other nominations. Motion passed 7-0.

### **ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS**

#### Superintendent

Dr. Kattula reported that the EGR Schools Foundation funded over \$80,000 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. Kattula reported that the 2018 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. Kattula reported that the All Staff Holiday Breakfast will be held on Wednesday, December 19, 2018.

Dr. Kattula reported that the Curriculum Workshop will be held on January 14, 2019, at 5:00 p.m.

Dr. Kattula reported that she and incoming board member, Mike Reid, attended the required Tool-Specific Superintendent Evaluation Training last week, provided by the Michigan Association of School Boards (MASB).

Dr. Kattula reported that she held student group meetings with several high school freshman and sophomores today, and she is looking forward to meeting with juniors, seniors, and middle school students later this week. She enjoyed these informal sessions and learning more about the students' interests and concerns.

Assistant Superintendent of Business

Kevin Philipps reported that constructed bids were received for projects that will take place in the spring and summer, and it is projected that we will come in 5% under budget. The bids will be brought to the board for approval in January.

Assistant Superintendent of Instruction

No reports.

Board Member Reports

*Communications Committee* – Member Milanowski shared social media statistics.

*Facilities Committee* – Member Hessler reported that he attended the MASB Fall Conference and learned different aspects of social media and community relations pertaining to schools.

*Finance Committee* – No committee reports. Member Coles shared his appreciation for the district’s teaching and opportunities for students.

*Joint Facilities Committee* – No reports.

*Personnel Committee* – No reports.

*Policy Review Committee* – No reports.

*Legislative Liaison Committee* – Member Welch reported that the committee will continue to keep an eye on lame duck activities.

Liaisons

*EGR Schools Foundation* – Member Wolford reported that grants were discussed earlier this evening.

*Community Action Council* – No reports.

*Leadership & Youth Development (LYD)* – Member Milanowski reported that student interviews were held for attendance at the MYLead conference. A meeting will be held on new programming with elementary and middle school students.

*Parks & Recreation* – No reports.

*PTO Council* – Member Bernecker reported that the November PTOC meeting was canceled due to the Snow Day.

*Superintendent’s Advisory Council (SAC)* – Member Milanowski reported that an initial meeting was held to discuss the purpose of the council and topics to discuss in the future.

President Bernecker reported that board committee assignments will be coordinated later this month and new assignments will begin in January.

**ADJOURNMENT**

President Bernecker adjourned the meeting at 7:12 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.