

## 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**

High School Learning Commons, 2211 Lake Drive SE, East Grand Rapids, MI 49506

**Tuesday, August 13, 2019**

### **MINUTES**

The **REGULAR MEETING** of the East Grand Rapids Public Schools Board of Education, Kent County, Michigan, was held on Tuesday, August 13, 2019, in the High School Learning Commons, 2211 Lake Drive 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, Jenny Fee, Kevin Philipps, Anthony Morey

#### Meeting Called to Order

President Bernecker called the meeting to order at 7:30 a.m. She welcomed Collin Wallace, Public Safety Officer, to this morning's meeting and announced his new role as the School-Community Liaison Officer with the EGR Department of Public Safety.

#### Public Comments – None

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

The Board received a Thank You note from Nancy McSkimming, retired Lakeside Elementary teacher, for hosting the staff retirement breakfast and for the gift of a clock in recognition of her years of service with EGRPS.

#### **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 4-5.

Approval of Minutes of REGULAR Meeting of 06/10/2019 ([Enclosure #4](#))

Approval of Payment of Bills – June and July 2019 ([Enclosure #5](#))

Member Laackman moved to approve the items in the Consent Agenda. Member Welch seconded the motion. Motion passed 7-0.

#### **OTHER ACTION ITEMS**

Approval of Teacher and Administrator Contracts – Dr. Kattula ([Enclosure #6](#))

Background: Per Board Policy #5430, the Board is responsible for the formal approval of all teacher and administrator contracts.

Recommendation: Motion to approve the teacher and administrator contracts as presented.

Dr. Kattula announced that the district has hired seven additional certificated staff, as well as two administrators, as listed in the board enclosure. Member Welch moved to approve the Teacher and Administrator Contracts as presented. Member Hessler seconded the motion. Motion passed 7-0.

Approval of Authorizing Resolution for Sale of 2020 Refunding Bonds – Kevin Philipps ([Enclosure #7](#))

Kevin Philipps, former Assistant Superintendent of Business, provided background information on the projected sale of 2020 refunding bonds as presented. A discussion was held among the board.

Member Bernecker moved to approve the Authorizing Resolution for Sale of 2020 Refunding Bonds as presented. A discussion was held among the board. Member Yates seconded the motion. Motion passed 7-0.

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Approval of School Bond Loan Fund Resolution – Kevin Philipps ([Enclosure #8](#))

Background: The district borrows annually from the School Bond Loan Program to assist in making our debt retirement payments. The application for the 2019-2020 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 authorizing the district to borrow funds from the Michigan School Bond Loan program as presented. A discussion was held among the board. Member Milanowski seconded the motion. Motion passed 7-0.

**ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS**

Superintendent

Dr. Kattula also welcomed Officer Collin Wallace and looks forward to working closely with him in his new role as the School-Community Liaison Officer.

Assistant Supt. of Finance and Operations

Anthony Morey thanked the board for their support in his new role. He also thanked Kevin Philipps for his leadership in the district.

Assistant Supt. of Instruction

Jenny Fee reported on the planning for Opening Day, as well as the staff professional development sessions scheduled for this week.

Board Member Reports

*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

Liaisons

*Community Action Council* – No reports

*EGR Schools Foundation* – Member Laackman reported that the EGRNow&Forever campaign is close to reaching its goal.

*Legislative Liaison* – Member Welch reported that a meeting is scheduled for tomorrow.

*Parks & Recreation* – Member Hessler reported that development plans for a splash pad, mountain bike trail, etc. are moving forward to the commission.

*PTO Council* – No reports

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

*Leadership & Youth Development (LYD)* – Member Milanowski reported on Freshman Connection and Senior Retreat, as well as the advisory board.

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

**ADJOURNMENT**

President Bernecker adjourned the meeting at 7:50 a.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.