

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, Community Board Room,
2915 Hall Street, SE.,
East Grand Rapids, MI 49506.

For Information, call 616-235-3535.

Monday, December 14, 2009

5:00 p.m.

Minutes

The REGULAR MEETING of the East Grand Rapids Public Schools Board of Education, Kent County, Michigan, was held on Monday, December 14, 2009 in the Community Board Room of the James E. Morse Administration Center at Woodcliff, 2915 Hall St., SE, East Grand Rapids, MI 49506.

Board of Education:

Present: Mr. Brian Ellis, Mr. Steve Edison, Mrs. Stacy Trierweiler, Mrs. Julie Ridenour, Mr. Peter Ruppert, Mrs. A. Michelle Rabideau, and Mr. Robert Minnema

Administration: Dr. Sara M. Shubel, Mr. Kevin Philipps, Mr. Peter Stuursma, Mrs. Jenny Fee, Mrs. Heidi Sunderhaft, Mrs. Linda Kehm, Mrs. Wendy VanZegeren, Mrs. Jann VanAirsdale, and Mr. Doug Jenkins

Meeting Called to Order

Mr. Ellis called the meeting to order at 5:00 p.m. He stated that Dr. Shubel would make an announcement. Dr. Shubel announced and congratulated Mrs. Linda Kehm, Principal at Lakeside Elementary, on recently being awarded the Region 9 Excellence Award by the Michigan Elementary and Middle School Principals Association.

Recognition of:

2009 Division 3 Girls Swimming and Diving State Championship Team - Dr. Sara Shubel, Mr. Brian Ellis and Mr. Scott Robertson

Congratulations were given and certificates were presented to each of the team members.

2009 Division 3 Football State Championship Team - Dr. Sara Shubel, Mr. Peter Stuursma, Mr. Brian Ellis and Mr. Scott Robertson

There were three captains of the football team present to accept certificates on behalf of the team.

Acknowledgement of Guests - None

Public Comments - Mr. Ellis explained the ground rules and then opened the floor for public comments:

Mr. Edison announced he will seek a second term on the Board this spring.

Jessica Kane - 3160 Hall Street - Skyping from school in Boston -commented about proposed second semester budget reductions.

Tamera Christians - 1111 Idema Drive SE - commented about proposed second semester budget reductions.

Emma Hall - 2600 Albert Drive SE - commented about proposed second semester budget reductions.

Cicely Schonberg - 2035 Hall Street SE - commented about proposed second semester budget reductions.

Traci Douglas - 2908 Hall Street SE - commented about proposed second semester budget reductions.

Beth Milanowski - 2640 Hall Street - parent and PTA President at Lakeside - commented about proposed second semester budget reductions.

Laurie Kane - 3160 Hall Street SE - commented about proposed second semester budget reductions.

Miles Murphy - lives outside of EGR - graduated from EGR last year - commented about proposed second semester reductions.

Dan Cook - 151 Glenview Drive SE - alumni - commented about proposed second semester budget reductions.

Lena Kremin - 802 San Jose SE - commented about proposed second semester budget reductions.

Michelle Battle - 1117 Pinecrest SE - teacher and parent - commented about proposed second semester budget reductions.

Trish Reid - 2333 El Dorado SE - commented about proposed second semester budget reductions.

Anthony Stockton - 2355 Burchard Street SE - commented about proposed second semester budget reductions.

Chris Kenward - 4078 Tallman Creek Road NW - commented about proposed second semester budget reductions.

Holly Goulet - 2062 Frederick Drive SE - commented about proposed second semester budget reductions.

Linda Kehm - Lakeside Principal - commented about proposed second semester budget reductions.

Eugene McElwee - 2554 Berwyck SE - commented about proposed second semester budget reductions.

Board Secretary's Report - Communications to and from the Board - Mrs. Trierweiler

Mrs. Trierweiler stated that the Board received a thank you card from Jackie Burdick (BD Reading Teacher) for the gift card to Schuler's following her surgery, and received communications on proposed budget reductions from the following people:

Abby Smith	Rebecca Johnson	Jeff Kallil
Matthew Bates	Jessica Kane	Erin Shadowens
Sami Condi	Lena Kremin	Steven Tharp
Brad McMullen	Katie Tucker	Daniel Koch
Jane Adams	Cameron Burnette	Marijke Kremin
Cecelia McDonald	Barb Fransen-Kelley	Ariel Lessens
Anne Murkowski	Mike and Trish Reid	Megan C. Turwall
Chris Kenward	B. Garter	Stacy Roberts
Julia Hickey	Kenneth Bonning	Marjolijn van der Velde
Christy Biermacher	Michelle Day	Carol Distel
Jeannine Frazier	David and Britt Campbell	Traci Douglas
Sarah Burnette	Marni Vyn	Jake Benham
Kurt Reifinger	Mary Elderkin	Kate Randall
Amanda Wenger	Tamara Christians	Jennifer Higgins

High School Student Council President's Report - Ms. Sonia Nicola

Ms. Nicola apologized for not making the last meeting, she had basket ball practice. She stated that the Arts and Crafts show raised about the same amount as last year. The annual food drive was successful and food baskets were delivered to 63 families on Saturday morning. The High School will be pairing with Relay for Life for a fund raiser called, "Paint the Stands Purple." This will be during one of the upcoming basketball games.

EGREA President's Report - Mrs. Shelly Schram

Mrs. Schram thanked everyone who attended the EGREA holiday party. As an aside she noted that the Middle School Math Department will be holding a Mathathon a fund raiser for St. Jude Children's Hospital. She wished everyone a safe and happy holiday season.

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 Consent Agenda Numbers 8 through 11.

Approval of Minutes of REGULAR MEETING of 11/23/09 (Enclosure #8)

Approval of Minutes of SPECIAL MEETING of 11/23/09 (Enclosure #9)

Approval of November Payment of Bills (Enclosure #10)

Approval of Overnight Student Activities (Enclosure #11)

In accordance with Board of Education Policy #7490, the district has an additional overnight athletic trip as outlined in Enclosure #11 for approval by the Board.

Mr. Edison moved to approve items in the Consent Agenda Numbers 8 through 11. Mrs. Rabideau seconded the motion. Motion passed 7-0.

Other Action Items:

Approval of Wireless Technology Purchase - 2006 Bond (Enclosure #12)

The district has an opportunity to expand the capabilities of the wireless network with remaining technology funds from the 2006 Bond. The district has worked with the

existing technology vendors from the 2006 Bond to obtain pricing and with the Board's approval, propose entering into an agreement with Enterasys Networks. The Finance and Facilities Committee's have reviewed the proposal and recommend approval.

Mrs. Ridenour moved to approve the expenditure of \$150,000 from the 2006 construction fund to purchase the recommended wireless technology from Enterasys Networks as recommended by the Finance and Facilities Committee's. Mrs. Trierweiler seconded the motion. There were comments and discussion from the Board. Motion passed 7-0.

Approval of Budget Reduction Recommendations for 2nd Semester (Enclosure #13)

As discussed at last month's amended budget presentation, recommendations to reduce budgeted expenditures for the 2009-10 fiscal year are being presented to reduce the projected use of fund equity to balance the 2009-10 fiscal year budget. The Finance Committee has reviewed the proposed reductions and recommend approval. Dr. Shubel gave a statement regarding school funding and the state of the economy.

Mrs. Ridenour moved to approve the revised recommended budget reductions for the beginning of the second semester as presented and officially amend budget expenditures to reflect the implementation of the reductions. Mr. Minnema seconded the motion. Board members and administrators clearly stated the fact that if the state funding situation for public schools remains the same we will be looking at dozens of layoffs for next year's budget. Motion passed 7-0.

Administrative Reports

Superintendent

Race to the Top (RTTT) - Federal education reform funds - last week we received a letter from the State Superintendent that they need to have all school districts sign a resolution to participate in the RTTT. Signatures would be needed by the Superintendent, Board President and the Association President and resolutions approved prior to January 7, 2010. At this point there is not a lot of information to present to the Board. One option given was to study the Race to the Top and have the resolution presented at a special meeting of the Board prior to the January 7 deadline. Mr. Ruppert moved to have the resolution approved this evening. Mrs. Ridenour seconded the motion. There was discussion by the Board. Motion failed 3-4. Voting no - Mr. Ellis, Mr. Edison, Mrs. Rabideau and Mr. Minnema. The Board asked Dr. Shubel and her staff to get more information concerning the Race to the Top and to bring the information and the resolution for consideration to a Special Meeting of the Board on January 4, 2010 at 5:00 pm.

Assistant Supt. for Business

Budget Workshop Date -February 15, 2010 - 6:00 pm

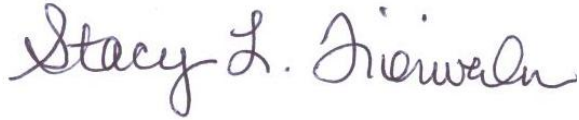
Assistant Supt. for Instruction - No report this month.

Board Representative Report – No reports this month.

Adjournment

Mr. Ellis adjourned the meeting at 6:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Stacy L. Trierweiler".

Stacy Trierweiler, Secretary
East Grand Rapids Public Schools Board of Education

* Minutes for this meeting will be available in the Superintendent's Office at 2915 Hall Street SE, East Grand Rapids, MI 49506.

** 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.
Superintendent's Office - 12/15/09