

## 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

Community Board Room at the James E. Morse Administration Center at Woodcliff  
2915 Hall Street SE, East Grand Rapids, MI 49506

Monday, May 21, 2012

### MINUTES

The **REGULAR MEETING** of the East Grand Rapids Public Schools Board of Education, Kent County, Michigan, was held on Monday, May 21, 2012, in the Community Board Room of the James E. Morse Administration Center at Woodcliff, 2915 Hall Street, SE, East Grand Rapids, MI 49506.

#### BOARD OF EDUCATION

Present: Brian Ellis, Steve Edison, Bob Minnema, Peter Ruppert, Susan Levine, Beth Milanowski

Absent: Michelle Rabideau

Administration: Dr. Sara Magaña Shubel, Jeanne Glowicki, Kevin Philipps, Kathy Wisniewski, Doug Jenkins, Jenny Fee, Craig Weigel, Lori Johnston, Peter Stuursma, Bill Behrendt, Caroline Breault-Cannon, Linda Kehm, Anthony Morey

#### Meeting Called to Order

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

Acknowledgment of Guests – None.

Public Comments – President Ellis explained the ground rules and then opened the floor for public comments.

- Mark Hessler - 2223 Estelle, announced his candidacy for the East Grand Rapids Board of Education
- Roger Nelson - 2225 Elmwood, commented on the proposed budget reductions.
- Sheryl Lee - 1911 Hall Street, commented on the proposed budget reductions.
- Marie Rossi - 2006 Lake Drive, commented on the proposed budget reductions.
- Claudine Duncan - 1621 Amberley Ct., commented on the proposed budget reductions.
- Kevin Claunch - EGRPS assistant wrestling coach, commented on the proposed budget reductions.
- Robert Trube - 3120 Southshire, commented on the proposed budget reductions.
- Mary Dougherty - 2639 Hall, commented on the proposed budget reductions.
- JJ Rossi - 2006 Lake Drive - commented on the proposed budget reductions.
- Cormac Bevins - 1345 Cornell, commented on the proposed budget reductions.
- Luke Headley - 1615 Amberley Ct, commented on the proposed budget reductions.
- David Bevins - 1345 Cornell, commented on the proposed budget reductions.
- Joe Rossi - 2006 Lake Dr, commented on the proposed budget reductions.

Board Secretary's Report: Communications to and from the Board – Steve Edison

- The Board received communication from the following people on the proposed budget reductions:

Tom Baranoski	Betsy Garter	Marie Rossi
Peter Baxter	Lars Headley	Gloriana Zimdar
David & Julie Bevins	Roger Nelson	Shaw Family
Katie Budden	O'Donovan Family	John Shelton
Claudine Duncan	Joe Rossi	

- The Board received communication from Carol and Onder Ors to recognize the successful scholastic foundation within East Grand Rapids Public Schools.
- The Board received a letter of congratulations from the Michigan Association of School Boards for East Grand Rapids High School being named a Silver Award winner by the *U.S. News and World Report*.
- The Board received a notice from Varnum on the Mark Peters Trust v. City of EGR assessment appeal.

### High School Student Council President's Report

Ian Kelly, Executive Board President, reported on prom, which was organized by Karl Schneider, and nearly 250 students were in attendance. Ian introduced Karl as next year's Student Council Executive Board President. Teacher Appreciation Week was recognized with a luncheon, and student council members wrote notes of appreciation to teachers for their service to our school district.

Dr. Shubel thanked Ian for his work at the high school and at board meetings. Dr. Shubel welcomed Karl to his new position with the Student Council.

### **PRESENTATION/DISCUSSION**

Recognition of East Grand Rapids Schools EGR Now Initiative – President Ellis and Dr. Shubel recognized the EGR Schools Foundation Endowment model where funds come directly back into our classrooms. This year, the EGR Now campaign was launched which raised \$517,713.69. The Board and Dr. Shubel wished to thank the Foundation for their efforts and offered a small token of appreciation to Amy Stuursma, Lindel Hoff, Mary Reagan, and Dean Witting who championed the initiative.

Amy Stuursma, Executive Director of the East Grand Rapids Schools Foundation, announced that a check will be presented to the Board at the end of the school year totaling over \$517,000, which was donated by 688 community members, as well as several entrepreneurs through bake sales, pencil sales, lemonade stands, etc. to save programs for the next school year. Stuursma thanked the board members and administration for everything they do for the district. Any additional funds received between now and June 25 will also be awarded to the district.

President Ellis reported on how proud people are of this community, and it is heard throughout the town.

Michelle Rabideau arrived at 6:28 p.m.

### Recognition of Lori Johnston's MACAC Gramenz Award (Enclosure #7)

Jenny Fee, High School Principal, announced Lori Johnston, High School Director of Guidance, received a lifetime achievement award, which is the highest honor of the Michigan Association for College Admission Counseling (MACAC) organization. Fee reported that this is a tribute to Lori's work, and the knowledge that she brings from that organization is a tremendous asset to our schools.

### Recognition of 2012 Green School Award – Breton Downs Elementary (Enclosure #8)

Caroline Breault-Cannon, Breton Downs Elementary Principal, reported on the Green School Award that Breton Downs received. Breton Downs is one of 75 schools in Kent County to receive this award.

### Proposed Science 6-12 Integration of Common Core (Enclosure #9)

Jeanne Glowicki provided background information on the implantation of Common Core in the 6-12 science curriculum and introduced Kevin Vance, middle school science teacher, who provided an overview of the middle school integration of Common Core. Vance reported that this proposal integrates reading and writing components within the science curriculum, which is a goal of the science group to support English. Text types and purposes were explained, as well as the research to build and present knowledge.

A discussion was held with questions and answers from the Board.

### Proposed ELA K-12 Phase II (Enclosure #10)

Jeanne Glowicki provided background information of the ELA K-12 Phase II proposal and introduced K-12 teachers to provide an overview. Carlye Allen, Special Education teacher, provided an overview of Phase I and Phase II of the ELA curriculum. Kim Doele, 1<sup>st</sup> grade teacher, described the elementary accomplishments of Phase II, reporting on the Agreement and Proposed Recommendation including what a Writing Block looks like, what Spelling looks like, and the Approved Teacher Toolbox. The Phase II elementary budget was detailed. Danielle Smith, middle school teacher, described the middle school accomplishments with integrating the Common Core with the GLCEs, an updated 6<sup>th</sup> grade reading class, and middle school future considerations. Heather McKinney-Rewa, high school English teacher, reported on the high school accomplishments of Phase II with the new curriculum for elective and AP classes, common assessments, and future considerations, as well as a college career readiness addendum. Jeanne Glowicki summarized the K-12 ELA Phase II proposal.

A discussion was held with questions and answers from the Board.

First Reading of Revised Policy #1020 – Election of Board Members and School Elections (Enclosure #11) – President Ellis

President Ellis reported that we need to comply with the new laws on school board elections, and the revisions as detailed in in Enclosure #11 were presented.

A discussion was held with questions and answers from the Board. Member Edison recommended removing the word “annual” from the policy. This was agreed upon by board members, and the change will be reflected in the Second Reading at the June 4, 2012, board meeting.

First Reading of Revised Policy #1100–Organizational Meeting and Annual Authorizations (Enclosure #12)

Based on recommendations from the district’s attorney, Kevin Philipps, and President Ellis, the revisions as detailed in Enclosure #12 were presented by President Ellis.

A discussion was held with questions and answers from the Board. Recommendation was made to remove the word “annual” from the policy. This was agreed upon by board members, and the change will be reflected in the Second Reading at the June 4, 2012, board meeting.

**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 13-21.

Approval of Minutes of REGULAR Meeting of 4/16/2012 (Enclosure #13)

Approval of Minutes of SPECIAL Meeting of 4/24/2012 – Supt. Evaluation (Enclosure #14)

Approval of Payment of Bills for April 2012 (Enclosure #15)

Approval of Proposed K-12 Math and Integration of Common Core (Enclosure #16)

Second Reading and Approval of Revised Policy #4510–Computer Network (Enclosure #17)

Second Reading and Approval of Revised Policy #7630–Graduation Requirements (Enclosure #18)

Second Reading and Approval of Revised Policy #8315–Honesty Policy (Enclosure #19)

Second Reading and Approval of Revised Policy #8320 – Student Use of Electronic Devices (Enclosure #20)

Approval of Recommendation for PASE Committee Members for 2012-2013 (Enclosure #21)

Background: Nominations are presented as described in Enclosure #21 for East Grand Rapids Parent Representatives to the Region II Parent Advisory Committee (PAC) and to the Kent Intermediate School District Parent Advisors for Special Education (PASE).

Member Minnema moved to approve Consent Agenda Items 13-21. Member Edison seconded the motion. Motion passed 7-0.

**OTHER ACTION ITEMS**

Approval of KISD Budget for 2012-2013 (Enclosure #22)

Background: The State of Michigan now requires that local school boards review their ISD’s proposed budget and act in support or non-support of the budget. The Finance Committee has discussed the KISD 2012-2013 budget and recommends support.

Recommendation: Motion to support the KISD 2012-2013 budget as presented.

Member Rabideau moved to support the KISD 2012-2013 budget as presented in Enclosure #22. Member Edison seconded the motion. A discussion was held with questions and answers from the Board. Motion passed 7-0.

Approval of the Superintendent’s Evaluation and Contract Extension

The Board conducted the annual evaluation of Dr. Shubel on April 24, 2012. While everyone recognizes that is a very difficult financial environment, Dr. Shubel is still able to move our district forward with her team. Dr. Shubel was rated Highly Effective in her review and showed progress against our goals in the district. Based on those factors, the Board is recommending that we extend Dr. Shubel’s contract by one year to June 30, 2015.

President Ellis moved to approve the Superintendent’s Evaluation and extend her contract by one year to June 30, 2015. Member Minnema seconded the motion. Motion passed 7-0.

Approval of OK Conference Ballot - Handbook Revisions (Enclosure #24)

Jenny Fee provided an overview of the OK Conference Handbook Revisions as detailed in Enclosure #24, explaining that the revisions streamline the voting process. Another significant change is the way votes are counted when a principal or superintendent is absent for the vote; if absent, the vote is counted as a Yes vote instead of a No vote.

Member Minnema moved to approve the OK Conference Ballot-Handbook Revisions as presented to the Board. Member Milanowski seconded the motion. A discussion was held with questions and answers from the Board. Motion passed 7-0.

Extend Board of Education Officers' Terms (Enclosure #25)

President Ellis provided an explanation of the need to extend Board of Education Officers' terms to January based on the change in election dates.

President Ellis moved to extend board officer terms to January. Member Edison seconded the motion. A discussion was held with questions and answers from the Board. Motion passed 7-0.

**ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS**

Superintendent

Dr. Shubel expressed her gratitude to the Foundation for their contributions to support our programs.

Dr. Shubel announced that there are seven staff members in the district who will be receiving Tenure this year as listed in Enclosure #26.

Dr. Shubel reported on the results of the *We The People* national competition in D.C. Our students tied for 10<sup>th</sup> place, so a draw was held and EGR did not make it into the Top 10. She congratulated the team and their coach, Janice Yates, on their accomplishments.

Dr. Shubel announced upcoming dates for

- Baccalaureate - Tuesday, May 22, 2012, 6:00 p.m. at Fountain Street Church
- High School Graduation Ceremony - May 24, 2012, 7:00 p.m. at Memorial Field

Assistant Supt. of Business

Kevin Philipps provided an overview of the Revised Budget Recommendations. Philipps reviewed the 2012-2013 Budget Projections and Current Budget Assumptions including funding based on the Governor's Budget Proposal and expenses. A summary of reductions was described. The EGR Now Campaign raised \$517,714 to help reduce the cuts. State Budget Proposals were compared to the original budget. Details of the May Revenue Conference were outlined with revenues increased across all fiscal years projected, 2012-2013 Available Revenues, and options for additional funds. Retirement Reform – SB1040 revisions were explained. The projected savings would still equal about 3.5% of the retirement rate. There has been a discussion of leaving the contribution rate at this year's 24.46% instead of projected 27.37%. Senate Bill 1040 – House Appropriations Committee has introduced a substitute bill today. The defined contribution for all new employees was removed, and a cap on employer retirement contribution rate at a maximum of 24.46% permanently, with any additional required costs to be paid out of the School Aid Fund, and proposed increased employee contributions reduced by 1%. \$310 million in SAF money would be used to keep the rate at 24.46% for this year. Unfunded liability would be reduced from \$45 to \$29 billion. Philipps provided a Budget Variance Analysis with current, worst case, and best case scenarios, and the net changes.

A prioritized list for *EGR Now* funds was recommended based on the \$517,714, with total recommendations of \$520,000. Other revised recommendations were presented as detailed in Enclosure #27. The recommendation was presented of revised prioritization of reductions. The revised 2012-2013 Budget Projections were described.

A discussion was held with questions and answers from the Board.

Philipps announced the Budget Hearing to be held on June 4, 5:30 p.m. with final budget adoption at the regular meeting on June 11, 2012, 6:00 p.m.

Assistant Supt. of Instruction

Jeanne Glowicki provided an update on Summer Learning to be held June 18-28, with approximately 70 staff members participating in learning opportunities. This year, 80% of the opportunities are funded through remaining federal grants, combined with money set aside in the existing budget. An overview of offerings was provided in the different content areas.

Board Representative Reports

BOARD OF EDUCATION

May 21, 2012

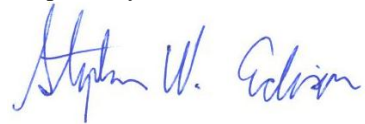
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President Ellis announced the Budget Hearing will be held on June 4, 2012, 5:30 p.m. and the next Regular board meeting will be held on June 11, 2012, 6:00 p.m. in the Community Board Room.

**ADJOURNMENT**

President Ellis adjourned the meeting at 7:55 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Stephen W. Edison". The signature is written in a cursive style.

Stephen W. Edison, 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. Sara M. Shubel, Superintendent, at 235-3535.  
jmm 5/22/2012