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*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, October 22, 2018

MINUTES

The **REGULAR MEETING** of the East Grand Rapids Public Schools Board of Education, Kent County, Michigan, was held on Monday, October 22, 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: None
Administration: Dr. Heidi Kattula, Kevin Philipps, Jenny Fee, Bill Behrendt, Doug Jenkins, Lori Johnston, Anthony Morey, Shelly Schram, Carlye Allen, Caroline Breault-Cannon, Stephanie Thelen

Meeting Called to Order

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

Acknowledgment of Guests

President Bernecker acknowledged audience members present this evening including:

Chad Zagel – Ward 1 EGR City Commissioner
Laurel Abraham - candidate for Kent County Commissioner
Trish Reid – spouse of Mike Reid, School Board Candidate

Public Comments

Laurel Abraham, 1108 Lakeside, introduced herself as a candidate for the 19th District Kent County Commission seat and offered her contact information to anyone interested in speaking with her.

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

Student Council President's Report

Will Marsh, Student Council President, reported that a successful Homecoming was held last week with freshman winning the float competition. Further organizational responsibilities for next year are being considered. Will announced the upcoming Arts & Crafts Show fundraiser which will be held November 16-17.

PRESENTATION / DISCUSSION

Recognition of National Merit Semi-Finalists – Lori Johnston (Enclosure #5)

Lori Johnston, High School Director of Guidance, introduced Michelle Harper and Elle Bodnar as the high school counselors who recognized Eli Harris-Trent, Anton Ludwig, and Olivia Spagnuolo on their accomplishments in becoming a National Merit Semi-Finalist. These students were congratulated by the board and presented with a certificate of recognition.

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 6-8.

Approval of Minutes of REGULAR Meeting of 9/17/2018 (Enclosure #6)

Approval of Minutes of SPECIAL Meeting of 10/1/2018 (Enclosure #7)

Approval of Payment of Bills – September 2018 (Enclosure #8)

Member Coles moved to approve Consent Agenda items 6-8. Member Hessler seconded the motion. Motion passed 7-0.

OTHER ACTION ITEMS

Acceptance of 2017-2018 Audit Report – Kevin Philipps (Enclosure #9)

Background: The audit was completed by Maner Costerisan this fall. The Board Finance Committee reviewed the report and recommends that the Board of Education receive the 2017-2018 Audit Report.

Recommendation: Motion to receive the 2017-2018 Audit Report as presented and recommended by the Board Finance Committee and Superintendent.

Kevin Philipps, Assistant Superintendent of Business, presented the findings of the 2017-2018 Audit Report. He shared that Jeff Staley from Maner Costerisan reported audit results to the Finance Committee last week. Overall results reflected the highest opinion in that the financial statements present fairly, in all material respects, the respective financial position of the governmental activities. Staley acknowledged the district for continuing to run smoothly with such a limited staff and appreciated the continued transparency of administrative staff while working with the district. Philipps commended the business office staff for their work all year long in accomplishing tasks that led to a positive audit.

Member Milanowski moved to accept the 2017-2018 Audit Report as presented and recommended by the Board Finance Committee and Superintendent. Member Laackman seconded the motion. A discussion was held among the board. The Board commended Philipps on his leadership in the Business Office. Motion passed 7-0.

Approval of Proposed Amended Budget for 2018-2019 – Kevin Philipps (Enclosure #10)

Background: Each fall the Board Finance Committee recommends a Budget Amendment to the Board of Education. The Finance Committee has reviewed the proposed amendment.

Recommendation: Motion to approve the amendment for the 2018-2019 budget as listed in Enclosure #10.

Kevin Philipps provided an overview of the Proposed 2018-2019 Amended Budget. He provided a summary of changes since the June 2018 Adopted Budget, an analysis of future years' budget assumptions, the budget forecast for 2019-2020 and 2020-2021, as well as financial trends/ratios, and areas of importance in the next few years. A discussion was held among the board.

Member Hessler moved to approve the amendment for the 2018-2019 budget as presented. Member Coles seconded the motion. Motion passed 7-0.

Approval of Blocktail Event

Background: The district received a request to hold Blocktail 2019, the Bissell Pet Foundation's annual fundraiser, on the EGRPS high school track/practice field and concession area on June 11, 2019, from 6-9pm. The board has reviewed Board Policy #9300, as well as the Michigan Liquor Control Code of 1998, and has been asked to consider approval of the event on school property. The Bissell Pet Foundation will provide a one-day beer/wine license and insurance to cover the facility and its participants, as well as security and clean-up. In order for this event to occur on school property, the board must approve of a one-time exception to waive board policy and allow alcohol to be served on school property for this specific event.

Recommendation: Motion to approve of a one-time exception to waive Board Policy #9300 and allow alcohol to be served on school property for Blocktail 2019 as described.

President Bernecker described details of a request to hold Blocktail 2019 and reported that the board must approve of a one-time exception to waive board policy and allow alcohol to be served on school property for this specific event. A discussion was held among the board.

Member Wolford moved to approve a one-time exception to waive Board Policy #9300 and allow alcohol to be served on school property for Blocktail 2019 as described. Member Laackman seconded the motion. Motion passed 7-0.

ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS

Superintendent

Dr. Kattula reported that Parent/Teacher Conferences are held in October this year. It is always great to see our parents and teachers collaborate on behalf of our students.

Dr. Kattula thanked Kevin Philipps for his work in the audit process and long-term budget planning.

Dr. Kattula shared that she attended the Economic Club meeting with Bob Wolford this week.

Assistant Superintendent of Business

None

Assistant Superintendent of Instruction

Jenny Fee reported on legislative updates which required kindergarten readiness assessments. She shared that 86 random students in kindergarten classrooms were assessed in emerging skills in different categories this year and shared the results.

Board Member Reports

Communications Committee – Member Milanowski reported on considerations for further communication opportunities for families.

Facilities Committee – No reports.

Finance Committee – No reports.

Joint Facilities Committee – No reports.

Personnel Committee – No reports.

Policy Review Committee – No reports.

Legislative Liaison Committee – Member Welch reported on the Town Hall debriefing and the committee is looking to hold another Town Hall in a year with current legislators that will be in place. The committee continues to remain engaged on legislative issues.

Liaisons

EGR Schools Foundation – Member Wolford reported that a meeting will be held tomorrow.

Community Action Council – Member Coles reported that the committee is scheduling a visit from the EGR Department of Public Safety in January.

Leadership & Youth Development (LYD) – Member Milanowski reported that a meeting will be held tomorrow.

Parks & Recreation – No reports.

PTO Council – Member Bernecker thanked the PTO Council for holding the Board Candidate Forum and provided feedback.

Parent Advocates for Special Education (PASE) – Member Laackman reported on the statewide revision of seclusion and restraint for special education and the training to be held. Interventions for special education graduate rates were discussed relating to the new state standard of 80%.

Superintendent's Advisory Council (SAC) – Member Milanowski reported that the first meeting will be held in November.

ADJOURNMENT

President Bernecker adjourned the meeting at 7:20 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.