



VII. B.

**Grosse Pointe Board of Education
Minutes of the Regular Meeting of June 22, 2015
Brownell Multipurpose Room
260 Chalfonte, Grosse Pointe Farms, MI 48236**

MEETING MINUTES

I. CALL TO ORDER

President Gafa called the meeting to order at 7:01p.m.

[\(to view meeting video click here\)](#)

Board members present: Trustees Gafa, Ismail, Roeske, Summerfield, Valente and Weertz

Absent: Trustee Pangborn

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Trustee Ismail.

Also Present: Superintendent Niehaus; Deputy Superintendents Dean and Fenton

II. APPROVAL OF BOARD AGENDA FOR JUNE 22, 2015

It was Moved by: Trustee Roeske

Supported by: Trustee Weertz

THAT the Board Agenda for June 22, 2015 be approved as presented.

Ayes: Trustees Gafa, Ismail, Roeske, Summerfield, Valente and Weertz

Absent: Trustee Pangborn

Nays: None

Motion carried by a 6 – 0 vote.

III. PUBLIC HEARING ON SCHOOL BREAKFAST PROGRAM

The district is required by law under Public Act 335 of 1993 to provide breakfast for full-time students, except if the number of free/reduced lunches in the previous year was 20% or less in any one of the school buildings in the district.

The administration plans to recommend that the school system not operate such a breakfast program in any one of its school buildings except at Defer, Mason, Poupard Elementary Schools, Parcels Middle School and North High School where the free and reduced lunch participation ranges from 20.40% to 62.3%. The highest participation level in any one of the other buildings is 19.0% and local tax dollars would be needed to supplement state reimbursement or lunch prices would increase to offset the cost. The Board is required to: 1) Conduct an annual public hearing; 2) Provide notification to parents; and 3) Publish a justification.

Public Notice was published in the Grosse Pointe News on June 11, 2015. The Board of Education scheduled time for a public hearing on the issue.

No one came forward to speak at this time. President Gafa declared the public hearing on the school breakfast program closed.

IV. PUBLIC HEARING ON 2015-2016 SCHOOL BUDGET

According to State law, the Board of Education is required to hold a Public Hearing before the adoption of the 2015-16 Budget. Also in accordance with State Law the required Public Notice has been published in the Grosse Pointe new on June 11, 2015.

No one came forward to speak at this time. President Gafa declared the public hearing on the 2015-2016 budget closed.

V. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

A. Recognition of Baseball Coach, Frank Sumbera, 1,000 Victory Win

Superintendent Niehaus recognized Frank Sumbera for his victory in winning 1,000 games coaching North High School student baseball. He invited Mr. Sumbera and North Principal, Kate Murray, on stage where Mrs. Murray spoke of Mr. Sumbera's impact on sports at North. Dr. Niehaus also thanked Mr. Sumbera for his influence and dedication to the game and the players that have been coached and mentored under his leadership. Board members congratulated Frank Sumbera and thanked him for his time and commitment to the students. Mr. Sumbera thanked his wife and family for their support in his love of the game.

B. Student Military Service Recognition

Superintendent Niehaus welcomed South graduate, Michael Landuyt, who will be entering the Naval ROTC, thanking him for his service to his country and wishing him well on his college career. The Board of Education also recognized and thanked Michael for his service to his country. Superintendent Niehaus invited Michael's parents to join him on stage for a round of congratulations and applause.

VI. PUBLIC COMMENTS ON CONSENT AGENDA ACTION ITEMS

There were no comments at this time.

VII. PUBLIC COMMENTS ON AGENDA ACTION ITEMS FOR JUNE 22, 2015

There were no public comments at this time.

VIII. CONSENT AGENDA ACTION ITEMS

- A. Approval of Regular Meeting Minutes of June 15, 2015
- B. Elementary School Social Studies Curriculum
- C. French I Textbook
- D. Policies
 - 1. 8310, Public Records
 - 2. 5112, Entrance Age
 - 3. 8390, Animals on District Property
 - 4. 5320, Immunization

It was Moved by: Trustee Weertz

Supported by: Trustee Valente

THAT the Board approve the Consent Agenda Action Items for June 22, 2015 as presented.

Ayes: Trustees Gafa, Ismail, Roeske, Summerfield, Valente and Weertz

Absent: Trustee Pangborn

Nays: None

Motion carried by a 6 – 0 vote.

IX. AGENDA ACTION ITEMS FOR JUNE 22, 2015

A. Approval of Human Resources Report for June 22, 2015

It was Moved by: Trustee Roeske

Supported by: Trustee Summerfield

Dr. Dean highlighted the appointment of Shelleyann Keelean to the Principal position at Monteith Elementary School and the recall from layoff status of Kelly Sexton-Bolen. He also noted the Camp Invention, Camp O'Fun, Extended School Year and Summer School assignments for summer school this year. Dr. Dean also

shared the retirements of Kathleen Kelly and Frank Tymrak from last month.

THAT the Board approve the Human Resources Report for June 22, 2015 as presented.

Ayes: Trustees Gafa, Ismail, Roeske, Summerfield, Valente and Weertz

Absent: Trustee Pangborn

Nays: None

Motion carried by a 6 – 0 vote.

B. Approval of G.A.A.A. #3

Mr. Fenton said that the General Appropriations Amendment Act #3 is part of the financial year-end reports that help to realign the district with where central administration feels the financial status should be at the end of the year. He noted that the major adjustment has to do with a revenue decrease due to the adjustment for the continued drop in enrollment as well as state aid and categorical funding which were lower than expected. The Headlee reduction of almost \$400,000 from two years ago and the special education impact were also a part of the adjustment reflected in the G.A.A.A. #3. Mr. Fenton expressed concern about the additional adjustments for the tax levy and other accruals. These adjustments are also part of the overall budget that will be presented later in the meeting.

The total decrease in revenue was approximately \$1,021,417.

It was Moved by: Trustee Summerfield

Supported by: Trustee Roeske

THAT the Board approve the G.A.A.A. #3 as presented.

Ayes: Trustees Gafa, Ismail, Roeske, Summerfield, Valente and Weertz

Absent: Trustee Pangborn

Nays: None

Motion carried by a 6 – 0 vote.

C. Approval of Budget for 2015-2016

Mr. Fenton shared that the budget document for 2015-2016 presented to the Board was the work of the central administration pending the final budget state budget that the district will receive in October, 2015. The district was required by law to hold a budget hearing which was posted and held this evening. Final budget results include a staff reduction of 15.9 FTE for total staff, primarily teachers and classroom assistants. He also noted that the good news for taxpayers was that taxes will be going down. The bad news is that the enrollment is also going down which amounts to \$453,000 loss in revenue for the district in the Hold Harmless funding for the schools. Mr. Fenton said that the district estimates the tax rate as close as possible for the next school year and determines estimates in funding using that formula.

Trustees Roeske and Valente requested that the Board receive information regarding athletic structure costs in August before the start of school.

It was Moved by: Trustee Summerfield

Supported by: Trustee Roeske

THAT the Board approve the Budget for 2015-2016 as presented.

Ayes: Trustees Gafa, Ismail, Roeske, Summerfield, Valente and Weertz

Absent: Trustee Pangborn

Nays: None

Motion carried by a 6 – 0 vote.

D. Approval of Central Office Administrative Contracts

Superintendent Niehaus provided revised administrative contracts for Chris Fenton, Jon Dean, Maureen Bur and Stefanie Hayes who currently serve under contracts that expire on June 30, 2016. Mr. Keith Howell is also

a central office administrator that currently serves under a one-year probation contract. The initial recommendation was for contract extensions equal to three years. The district's legal counsel proposed new contracts that listed salary, merit pay and non-renewal dates changing two-year extension contracts to new three-year contracts that would expire June 30, 2018. These revised contracts were provided to the Board for review.

A correction was made to the enclosure page to change Dr. Niehaus' name located in the request to Stefanie Hayes' name.

It was Moved by: Trustee Roeske

Supported by: Trustee Weertz

THAT the Board approve the Central Office Administrative Contracts for Christian Fenton, Jon Dean, Maureen Bur and Stefanie Hayes as amended.

Ayes: Trustees Gafa, Roeske, Summerfield, Valente and Weertz

Absent: Trustee Pangborn

Nays: Trustee Ismail

Motion carried by a 5 – 1 vote.

E. Approval of EPED for Central Office Administrators

Superintendent Niehaus proposed, with Board approval and direction, central office EPED (extra pay for extra-duty) compensation for Dr. Dean, Mr. Fenton and Mrs. Bur for extended responsibilities performed in addition to regular duties. Additional compensation was recommended for Dr. Niehaus for an additional five days worked in the district prior to his June 1, 2015 start date.

It was Moved by: Trustee Weertz

Supported by: Trustee Roeske

THAT the Board approve the Extra-Pay for Extra-Duty (EPED) for Central Office Administrators as presented.

It was Moved by: Trustee Ismail

Supported by: Trustee Summerfield

THAT the Central Office Administrative EPED for Dr. Dean, Mr. Fenton, Mrs. Bur and Dr. Niehaus be calculated by hours and voted on separately.

Trustee Ismail withdrew his motion.

Ayes: Trustees Gafa, Roeske, Summerfield and Weertz

Absent: Trustee Pangborn

Nays: Trustees Ismail and Valente

Motion carried by a 4– 2 vote.

X. AGENDA ACTION ITEMS FOR JULY 27, 2015

A. Approval of Human Resources Report for July 27, 2015

B. Approval of Meeting Minutes of July 20, 2015

Central administration and Board members briefly discussed the following organizational items recommending that they be part of a consent agenda for the July 27, 2015 regular meeting:

C. Approval of Memberships

1. Michigan Association of School Boards (MASB)

2. Michigan High School Athletic Association (MHSSA)

D. Approval of Indemnification

1. Liability Indemnification

2. Asbestos Indemnification

a. Operation and Maintenance Employees

b. Designated Agent

E. Approval of Fidelity and Treasurer's Bonds

- F. Approval of School Breakfast Program
- G. Approval of Designated Agent
- H. Approval of Debit/Credit Card Users
- I. Approval of Tuition Rates for 2015-2016

It was Moved by: Trustee Roeske

Supported by: Trustee Weertz

THAT a Consent Agenda be created for the July 27, 2015 regular meeting of the Board consisting of items: C.) Memberships; D.) Asbestos Indemnification, Liability, Operation/Maintenance and Designated Agent; E.) Fidelity and Treasurer's Bonds; F.) School Breakfast Program; G.) Designated Agent; H.) Debit/Credit Card Users; and I.) Tuition Rates for 2015-2016.

XI. INFORMATION AND DISCUSSION

A. Monthly Financial Report/Health Care Report

Dr. Dean reported on the health care report for the month of April noting the high claim came through as predicted that he had been sharing with the Board. The stop-loss amount is also noted on the report and will continue. Mr. Fenton reported on the monthly financial reports provided to the Board and the status as of the end of May. The additional financial documents provided have already been discussed earlier in the meeting.

B. Residency Update/Re-Registration Update

Mr. Fenton shared that notices were placed in school newspapers and E-blasts were sent out last week to families to enroll a new kindergarten student, and for those parents with a 6th and/or 9th grader, to remind them about the importance of residency re-verification. Students participating in sports must be re-registered prior to any practices for that sport. The district has contacted with an outside firm as of last year who will continue to check residency this year as needed. Those violating the residency requirements will be billed for the amount of days they were in violation and those unpaid tuition amounts will now be turned over to a collection agency to retrieve the amount due.

XII. FUTURE MEETINGS

President Gafa announced that the Regular Meeting of the Board scheduled for Monday, July 20, 2015 has been cancelled.

- A. Board Policy Committee Meeting, Tuesday, July 21, 2015, 6:00 p.m., Board Room, 389 St. Clair
- B. Regular Meeting of the Board, Monday, July 27, 2015, 7:00 p.m., Brownell Multipurpose Room

XIII. PUBLIC COMMENTS ON NON-ACTION ITEMS

Laura Mikesell, GPEA President, wished a happy belated Father's Day to the Father's on the stage at the Board table. She congratulated Shelleyann Keelean on her approval to the Monteith Elementary School principal position. She noted that with teachers not in school buildings for the summer, custodial staff can begin their deep cleaning of classrooms across the district. She said the GPEA thanks Board members, especially Trustee Summerfield, Mr. Fenton and Dr. Dean for being careful stewards of the district's fund equity and for prioritizing all Grosse Pointe staff in the face of limited increase in legislative dollars. She thanked the Human Resources Department for minimizing layoffs and additional staff pay cuts.

XIV. OTHER COMMENTS FROM BOARD AND SUPERINTENDENT

Trustee Ismail said that he wanted to be clear that his comments about central office contracts and/or merit pay/EPED compensation were not personal, but rather, a paperwork issue and asking, as a Board member, important questions. He thanked Dr. Dean, Mr. Fenton, Mrs. Bur and Dr. Niehaus for the jobs that they do in the school system.

Trustee Valente echoed Mr. Ismail's comments, noting the difficulty in making sure that as a Board member they are making decisions in the best interest of the school district and community. She also noted the changes

to parents regarding the immunization waiver changes that reflect state requirements. She wished everyone a good summer.

Trustee Roeske shared that the new immunization forms are on the district website. He wished everyone a safe 4th of July. He thanked Mrs. Gafa for her recent letter in the Grosse Pointe News and thanked the teachers for their continued dedication and work with students.

Trustee Summerfield thanked Mr. Fenton, Dr. Dean, Dr. Niehaus, Mr. Niforos and Ms. Smith for their hard work and guidance on the district budget.

Trustee Weertz echoed Trustees Valente and Ismail regarding central office staff noting that they will make a great central office administrative staff.

Superintendent Niehaus said as he looks ahead to the fall, noting that the 4th of July is just around the corner, the district will be half-way through summer already. He said that the Board needs time to get together to develop a Strategic Plan in September, October and November to have in place in order to set financial and other goals. He noted that he has a candidate that can help the district bring that strategic work forward possibly during July. He would like to set meetings aside with the Board to begin that work.

Dr. Niehaus addressed the extra-pay for extra-duty for central office administrators, Dr. Dean, Mr. Fenton and Ms. Bur. He applauded their commitment during a transition time in the district to step in and make everything work.

President Gafa thanked Rebecca Fannon for her work in keeping track of and helping to write the letter she sent to the *Grosse Pointe News* recognizing the wonderful events that occurred over the past year in the school district.

Mrs. Gafa addressed the team that worked on the budget presented this evening thanking them for their efforts and hard work to bring forth a balanced budget.

President Gafa also said that she appreciated the healthy and respectful Board member conversation on some of the agenda items at the meeting this evening. She wished everyone a safe 4th of July.

XV. ADJOURNMENT

President Gafa adjourned the meeting at 9:20 p.m.

Margaret Weertz, Board Secretary