



**Grosse Pointe Board of Education**  
**Minutes of the Work Session of November 23, 2009**  
**Library Media Center, Grosse Pointe North High School**  
**707 Vernier, Grosse Pointe Woods, MI 48236**

<p><b>MEETING MINUTES</b></p> <p><b>CALL TO ORDER</b></p>	<p>President Kosinski called the meeting to order at 7:17 p.m.</p> <p><b>Board members present:</b> Trustees Dindoffer, Gafa, Kratz, Kosinski, Steininger and Walsh</p> <p><b>Absent:</b> Trustee Minturn</p> <p><b>Also Present:</b> Superintendent Klein; Assistant Superintendents Allan, Harwood and Fenton; Executive Director Warras</p>
<p><b>DISCUSSION OF BUDGET PLANNING FOR 2010-11</b></p>	<p>President Kosinski stated that the purpose of this Board work session is to continue the discussion of the budget for 2010-11. She noted that Trustee Walsh has been working extensively on budget reports to share with the Board.</p> <p>Trustee Walsh stated that Board members will develop a budget parameters resolution to provide a more defined set of guidelines for the budget process. The resolution will be on the Board agenda for approval in January, 2010.</p> <p>Trustee Walsh said that in the September work session, a timeline was agreed to for the budget process. He reminded the community that the Board is taking a zero based approach to budgeting. He added that data shows that human resources costs and their escalation is the primary source of the structural shortfalls in all public schools.</p> <p>Last month's budget work session proceeded with a discussion of the newly developed Staff Utilization Utility (SUU) report that includes each employee by function and funding. The intent of that work session was to elicit feedback from the Board on the budget process and any questions they may have so that the Board can compile a list of those areas they want the administration to focus on in the budget process.</p> <p>Tonight's emphasis will again be the SUU model with focus on a few key financial reports. Mr. Walsh noted that as human resource costs continue to expand, the SUU gives finer detail on staffing throughout the district, staffing sources and funding sources. He explained the different funding sources that some positions hold.</p> <p>Board members then had an opportunity to asked detailed questions about the reports provided by Mr. Walsh as well as questions of the central office administration.</p> <p>Budget issues discussed included: class size; middle and high school electives; foreign language at the high school level; elimination of low enrollment classes; and the cost of legal fees to the district.</p>
<p><b>PUBLIC COMMENTS</b></p>	<p>Ellen Bowen, Grosse Pointe Park resident and district teacher, spoke in support of the seven- period day.</p> <p>Mark Davids, Grosse Pointe resident and district teacher, shared his views in support of a teacher retirement incentive.</p>

	<p>Jeff Nardone, Grosse Pointe Park resident and district teacher, spoke in support of teachers in the district and their desire to settle a contract before the holiday.</p> <p>Allison Baker, Grosse Pointe Park, spoke in support of the South Mother's Club Holiday Walk.</p>
<b>ADJOURNMENT</b>	President Kosinski adjourned the meeting at 8:12 p.m.

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**Board Secretary**