



Next Meetings:

The next Board meeting is:

- Regular Meeting,
Monday, 2/8, 7 p.m.
Brownell MPR
- Policy Meeting,
Thursday, 2/11, 6 p.m.
Administration Building
- Regular Meeting,
Monday, 2/29, 7 p.m.
Brownell MPR

You can watch regular board meetings livestreamed or archived at <http://new.livestream.com/ac-counts/3685210> on Comcast channel 20/902 or AT&T channel 99. The July meeting was not videotaped but audio will be available online.

Mark Your Calendar:

- Midwinter break begins at the end of the day 2/12
- Welcome back 2/22

Board Calendar 2016:

- February 8, 29
- March 14 only (spring break)
- April 11, 25
- May 9, 23
- June 13, 27
- July 11, 25
- August 8, 22
- September 12, 26
- October 10, 24
- November 14, 28
- December 12

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Board Briefs

January 2016

Our Mission: Promote Innovation -> Maximize Potential -> Embrace Community

Mason and MESTA Awards celebrated

Mason Elementary won the Edsel and Eleanor Ford Estate *Winter Wonderland* tree decorating contest. All GPPSS elementary schools participated and each will have their tree planted on their school grounds this spring. Ardis Herrold was honored for being only the second recipient of the *Art Weinle Heart of MESTA Award* from the Michigan Earth Science Teachers Association. Part of her award was to choose a recipient for a \$500 classroom grant and she named Troy Hernandez. You'll have to ask her what she did with the 300 pound Boulder also awarded. Her presentation was kept a surprise because she was there to celebrate Lisa Bouda being named MESTA 2016 Teacher of the Year.

Annual organizational meeting is held each January

The Board unanimously elected its 2016 officers as follows: President Judy Gafa, Vice President Dan Roeske, Treasurer Brian Summerfield, and Secretary Cindy Pangborn. They also declared their preference for compensation, appointed representatives to MAISL for insurance underwriting, approved a resolution for continuance of funds and designation of signatories on accounts (Christian Fenton, Isha Smith, Helen Johnson), and set the 2016 Board calendar. These are all items that must be voted upon annually.

All action items pass unanimously

The Board approved the minutes and the human resources report, noting four retirements of longtime employees Joyce Lyjak, Debra Donnellon, Susan Vogel and Suzanne Topper. The board also passed the budget parameters for 2016-17 which will be used by the administration as budget development continues. Treasurer Summerfield noted the district is still aiming for the 10% fund equity goal but the parameter language says at least 9%. Board bylaw 0167.5 use of electronic mail passed 6-0, but bylaw 0175.1 school board conference, conventions and workshops was tabled for the policy committee to refine language.

Info and discussion topics included program of studies and survey

There were no major changes to the Middle School Program of Studies presented at the January 25th meeting. Of note during Info and Discussion January 11 were the infrastructure and sinking fund project lists, as well as a summary of the Workplace Dynamics staff survey. The administration is working with the unions to develop a list of top focus areas with related action plans to address the feedback given through the survey. Thank you to all who participated.

Action items for February

In February, the board will discuss the reinstatement panel, e-rate and technology bids, board policy 5610.01 permanent expulsion, and approval of the French II textbook. Contact President Gafa at schoolboard@gpschools.org if you are interested in serving on the reinstatement panel.