

Board Briefs

November 2008



Special recognitions of our staff, board and superintendent celebrated

Dr. Klein was named Superintendent of the Year for Region 9. The award was presented by Christopher Wigent, Superintendent, Wayne County RESA; Dr. Joan C. Sargent, Executive Director, Tri-County Alliance for Public Education; and Barbara Lott, Vice-President, Tri-County Alliance for Public Education and Superintendent of Brownstown School District. Here board president Brendan Walsh presents her with flowers from the board of education.



In the Inaugural Year of the GPPSS Distinguished Employees Staff Recognition Program, 11 staff members were honored. Front Row (L to R): Stephanie Erhard, Mason Teacher; Jessica DeWitt, Mason Teacher; Beth Rainbolt, Richard Reading Specialist; Carrie Balderson, Ferry Social Worker; Tricia Gout, Defer Teacher. Back Row: Kathryn Murray, North Teacher; Cynthia

LaRue, Poupard Classroom Assistant; Julie Foust, Ferry Reading Specialist. Not pictured: Diane Goodwin, Trombly Secretary; Bonnie Middeldorf, Pierce Teacher; and a recipient who requested to remain anonymous.

Also, Trombly Elementary's receipt of the Grosse Pointe Park Civic Award for being a Green School was noted, and congratulations were extended to Ahmed Ismail who retained his board of education seat, and Judy Gafa, who is new to the board in January.

Next Meetings:

Board work session at 6 p.m., Monday, December 8, in South's Wicking Library, 11 Grosse Pointe Blvd., Grosse Pointe Farms, followed by the 8 p.m. regular board meeting.

Please Note: July through December, regular Board meetings will be held in South's Wicking Library. January through June, regular Board meetings will be held in the North library. Work session locations vary.

Board meetings dates and agendas are listed at www.gpschools.org and posted in the Central Administration Building at 389 St. Clair Ave., Grosse Pointe, MI 48230.

District is pleased to receive another "unqualified" audit

Representatives from BDO Seidman accounting firm were on hand to share key points of the audit and answer questions. They pointed out that our fund equity, at 16.5% of the annual budget is within the industry recommendations of 15-20%, and that our debt limit is well below the state imposed regulations, saying "the school district was very strong."

Consent agenda passes 7-0

The Board of Education approved the human resources report, the minutes from the board meeting October 27, and the bid for Parcels Middle School's technology department air conditioning project to keep the equipment cool and properly functioning.

December agenda highlights

The first General Appropriations Act Amendment will come before the board as a formal way to show adjustments between actual and budgeted revenues and expenditures. More grants coming in have translated into adjustments in revenue and expenditures, staffing changes have led to savings and made expenditures for cafeteria updates and additional projects possible. Also to be discussed in December will be extended day kindergarten rates for 2008-09 (\$3,840 if 76-80 students enroll, \$3,390 if more than 86 enroll), extension of the Just5Clicks student data software contract, and three new courses -- Pictorial Literature (English), Business Finance (a fourth year math option), and Theory of Learning (part of the High School 2.0 initiative). At the work session December 8, discussion of the guidelines for board policies related to attendance, meaningful feedback on student work and due process rights will continue.

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