

# Board Briefs

November 2009

## **Next Meetings:**

Board work session at 6 p.m., Monday, December 14, at North High School, followed by the 8 p.m. regular Board meeting.

Board meetings dates and agendas are listed at [www.gpschools.org](http://www.gpschools.org) and posted in the Central Administration Building at 389 St. Clair Ave., Grosse Pointe, MI 48230.

## **Distinguished Employees and volunteers honored by board**

Wayne RESA Superintendent Chris Wigent joined the festivities honoring this year's seven Distinguished Employees for going above and beyond. 2009 recipients include: George Flora, Mary Kilimas, Kari Krausmann, Alan Letkowski, Julie Leto, Jane McCaughrin, Emily Rennpage, and Isha Smith. Also recognized were Allison Baker and Helen Srebernak for their tireless work on the successful millage campaign.

## **Another clean audit was presented in addition to monthly financials**

A representative of BDO Seidman presented another "clean and unqualified" audit expressing his thanks for the work of the business staff. Those documents are posted on the Finances and Transparency page of the website, as are the monthly financial reports and the Brown and Brown health care costs report also presented last night.

## **Board accepts \$28,532 in GPFPE grants**

In a 6-0 vote, the Board accepted seven more grants from the Grosse Pointe Foundation for Public Education bringing gifts to date over the \$600,000 mark. These included:

- Social Studies Bin Supplies (Grade 2) - \$1,532
- FOSS Science Kits (Grades 3 and 4) - \$1,696
- Enhancing Economic Literacy (K-5) - \$17,786
- Pierce National Junior Honor Society Read Across America (100 NJHS students will read at 3 Elementary Schools) - \$498
- Poupard Pilot of Diverse Differentiated Materials (K-5) - \$480
- Poupard Home Reading Pilot (K-5) - \$3,040
- Grosse Pointe South Challenge Day (9-12) - \$3,500

## **Consent agenda ranges from course approvals to locker projects**

The board approved a diverse consent agenda 6-0. Included were course approvals for *Advanced Placement Art Classes* that will be offered stacked with existing art classes, the 9-12 physical education curriculum, and *High School Art Now*. Locker replacements at Pierce and Parcels were also approved. Laura Zajac was approved as the Human Sexuality Advisory Board parent co-chair. Also included in the consent agenda was General Appropriations Act Amendment (GAAA) #2 which approved use of over \$3 million of fund equity to cover the \$165/pupil and \$198/pupil 20J cuts Lansing approved in October. Efforts continue to fight the 20J cut through the SOS movement -- see the news section of the website for more on that. An additional \$127/pupil cut has also been announced by Lansing with final details anticipated the week of December 10.

## **Other business**

South Choir's field trip to Greece during the midwinter break 2010 was also approved after discussion of how the booster group was helping students fundraise who were interested in attending but could not pay the entire amount. December's Board agenda includes discussion of elementary music textbooks, new semester-long math courses entitled *Introduction to Calculus* and *Statistics* to increase options for students to meet the State's fourth year math requirement, and approval of 10 policy revisions ranging from search and seizure to home schooling credit recognition. All policies are online and board member Joan Dindoffer said she anticipates the accompanying administrative guidelines will also be online by the start of the new semester.