

Board Briefs

January 2010

Next Meetings:

Board regular meeting at 8 p.m., Monday, February 22, in the North High School library, 707 Vernier.

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.

To access background documents for upcoming agendas, please visit the board calendar. Past agendas and background documents are also archived online under the School Board dropdown. Note that minutes are not posted until approved at the next monthly board meeting.

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Superintendent's Report recognizes Dr. Outlaw, School Board, MEAP

January is School Board Recognition Month. In recognition of their service to the community, Dr. Klein invited the board on a technology tour. Superintendent Klein also recognized North's Assistant Principal Matt Outlaw for earning his doctorate. Dr. Allan then provided a very general summary of promising MEAP scores; as soon as the State embargo is lifted the actual scores will be reported. Dr. Klein also noted North's recognition as an "Evergreen" school – the highest honor a school can attain under the Michigan Green School program. She also shared that the board policies and related administrative guidelines are all updated and online under the School Board dropdown at www.gpschools.org.

Annual organizational items

The oath of office was administered to the three board members elected in November - Joan Dindoffer, Tom Jakubiec and Cindy Pangborn. Board officers were elected as follows: President John Steininger, VP Joan Dindoffer, Secretary Judy Gafa, and Treasurer Brendan Walsh. Regarding board compensation, Joan Dindoffer and Fred Minturn declined compensation. Judy Gafa designated her compensation to The Family Center. Brendan Walsh designated his to the Latin Club. John Steininger gave his to the 100 Club. Tom Jakubiec and Cindy Pangborn chose to receive their compensation. Account signatories and insurance representatives passed 7-0. The remaining 2010 board regular meeting calendar was approved as follows: February 22, March 22, April 26, May 24, June 28, July 26, August 23, September 27, October 25, November 22, and December 13.

Technology bids save almost \$200,000

After approving the amended human resources report and minutes, the board approved technology bids for the Wide Area Network (revised to a 3-year contract from the bid previewed last month), cell telephones, dedicated line and local and long distance services for a savings of \$184,000 before e-Rate reimbursement.

Extended Day Kindergarten rates decision tabled

After discussing all day kindergarten (ADK), extended day kindergarten (EDK) and half day program options, the board voted 7-0 to table the EDK rate vote until next month when additional information on a free ADK program can be gathered through discussions with staff and a community survey (available online at www.gpschools.org or in hard copy by calling 313-432-3010). The proposed EDK rate of \$4,080 for next year is a 6% increase over this year's rate of \$3,850 to cover additional staffing required for daycare licensing.

Budget Parameters and negotiations update

Brendan Walsh presented information used as the board established the 2010 budget parameters. Both the PowerPoint and the actual parameters are available online. Mr. Harwood shared that negotiations continue with all groups. Having met with the teacher's union 20 times since May and considering the difference between their positions, the district has requested mediation which will begin in February. All contracts and updated health care cost information are available under the website's School Finance tab. Updates on the status of negotiations with the other bargaining groups will come next month.

Preview of February business and items for info and discussion

Dr. Allan shared highlights of the Middle School Program of Studies. Dr. Allan also previewed a new Business and Finance textbook for one of the new math courses the board approved to help students meet the State's new fourth year math requirement.