

Board Briefs

April 2011

Next Meetings:

Board work session at 6 p.m. and regular meeting at 8 p.m., **Monday, May 23**, in the **South** High School Library, 11 Grosse Pointe Blvd.

Board meeting 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, typically at the next monthly board meeting.

You can now watch the school board meetings via www.gppstv.phanfare.com on Comcast channel 20/902 and AT&T channel 99.

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Board selects Hazard, Young, Attea & Associates for search firm

In a special meeting following the regular board meeting, the Board of Education discussed search options and voted 4-3 to select Hazard, Young, Attea & Associates to facilitate the superintendent search process. Their bid of \$16,500 was in line with the nine bids received from the search request for proposals (RFP) and the two representatives leading the team previously worked in similar districts (Birmingham and East Grand Rapids).

Budget development discussions continue in work sessions

The Board heard the elementary budget proposals during their 6:30 p.m. work session. Last month, proposals for special education and secondary schools were brought forward. Next month, central office and technology proposals will be heard as the district works toward the budget hearing in June. Public feedback continues to be sought as this process moves forward. Ideas may be shared through various means: writing the Superintendent's Office, 389 St. Clair, Grosse Pointe 48230; emailing budget@gpschools.org; or calling 432-3010.

Distinguished volunteers recognized for work across the district

The 27th annual Distinguished Volunteers include: Renee Carrier-Maire, Mary Dice-Pierce, Jocelyn Dombrowski-South, Susan Griffin-Trombly, Sheri Kam-Parcells, Christine Keller-Poupard, Dr. Roger McCaig- Central Office, Christie Scoggin-Monteith, Peter Seymour-Barnes, Julie Verlinden-Defer, and Lisa Vreede-Kerby. When you see these and other volunteers in our schools, please help us thank them for their service and dedication.

Thirty-three teachers receive layoff notices

The Board and Superintendent expressed regret over the 33 staff on the layoff list this year and noted they will be watching the budget picture come into focus from Lansing with hopes of recalling as many as possible. Per the teacher contract, teachers must receive 60 days notice prior to the end of the school year and the layoff list is developed for the worst case budget scenario in order to protect the district. In other human resources news, Karen Sullivan's interim status was removed - she is now principal of Defer. And the retirement of Jacqueline Rentenbach after 25 years of service was noted.

Bids and auditors make business news

In a 6-1 vote, the Board chose to reject bids for the South High School Gym Mechanical system and rebid that next summer. Bids passed 7-0 for the South track resurfacing, North parking lot and Monteith resurfacing, and restrooms at Defer, Trombly and South. Approved 6-1 was the appointment of Plante Moran as auditor for the district, replacing BDO Seidman. The district will save \$12,000 over the next five years with this new contract.

Action items for May

The Board will discuss the lease for the Full Circle Upscale Resale Shop, a delegate for the Wayne RESA Board of Education election, and approval of a resolution honoring district retirees and those with 25 years of service.