



Grosse Pointe Board of Education
Minutes of the Regular Meeting of February 28, 2011
Wicking Library, South High School
11 Grosse Pointe Blvd., Grosse Pointe Farms, MI 48236

MEETING MINUTES	President Steininger called the meeting to order at 8:03 p.m.
CALL TO ORDER	<p>The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Trustee Minturn.</p> <p>Board members present: Trustees Dindoffer, Gafa, Jakubiec, Minturn, Pangborn, Steininger and Walsh</p> <p>Also Present: Superintendent Klein; Assistant Superintendents Beels, Fenton and Harwood; and Executive Director Warras</p>
SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT	<p>A. Student Recognition – Scholastic Art Awards at North and South High School</p> <p>Dr. Klein and Board President John Steininger welcomed the Grosse Pointe Public School System's 2011 Scholastic Art Award Winners. There were 80 schools that participated with a total of 4,113 individual entries in the 2011 Scholastic Art Awards Program. Grosse Pointe North received 31 individual certificates, both silver and gold key winners and Grosse Pointe South, 44 individual certificates also silver and gold key winners as well as a Best of Show award winner. The following students received the Gold Key Award and National Recognition: from North, Alexis Cobau; Katherine Daskas; Cullen Faber; Amelia Flynn; Joseph Kulka; George Mattingly; James McNelis; Erick Michaelson; and Christina Wyrick; and from South, Bridget Blondell; Melissa Bryan (also a Best of Show winner); Zoe Carter; Paula Friedrich; Kelsey Horn; Alexandra Kern; Natasa Kopcak; Erika Long; Mary Magee; and Savannah Melcher.</p> <p>South students will hold their Annual Art Show in Cleminson Hall while the North Art Show is held in the Fine and Performing Arts Center in the spring. Dr. Klein thanked the outstanding K-12 Art Department for all they do for their art students.</p> <p>Dr. Klein noted that the Family Center of Grosse Pointe and Harper Woods and Beaumont Hospital have joined forces for the first annual Spirit of Giving event to be held on Wednesday, March 2, 2011 at 6:30 p.m. at the Grosse Pointe Academy. Coordinated by Alicia Carlisle, the Spirit of Giving brings together parents and students with community organizations to raise awareness of the many volunteer opportunities in the community.</p> <p>District summer programs will include Safety Town, Camp O'Fun and a new opportunity for preschool students at Barnes.</p> <p>Sponsored by their P.T.O., Parcels Middle School is hosting a seminar on Tuesday, March 15, 2011 at 7 p.m. with a speaker from the Wayne County Prosecutor's Office, Mr. Keith Clark, to discuss Cyber Safety. Parents from across the district from across the district are welcome to attend.</p> <p>The Grosse Pointe South Boll Athletic Center won the 2010 Design Award for an Outstanding Athletic Facility Design. This facility is the only high school in Michigan to win such a prestigious award.</p>
PUBLIC COMMENTS ON ACTION ITEMS	No one came forward to speak.
ACTION ITEMS FOR FEBRUARY 28, 2011	<p>A. Approval of Human Resources Report for February, 2011</p> <p>The Human Resources Report contained the appointments of one grade one classroom assistant at</p>

Defer and one .6 office clerk at Kerby. All appointments are replacements or otherwise within the 2010-11 budget allocation.

It was Moved by: Trustee Walsh

Supported by: Trustee Dindoffer

THAT the Board approve the Human Resources Report as presented.

Ayes: Trustees Dindoffer, Gafa, Jakubiec, Minturn, Pangborn, Steininger and Walsh

Nays: None

Motion carried by a 7 – 0 vote.

B. Approval of Work Session Minutes of January 12, 2011 and Regular Meeting Minutes of January 24, 2011

The Minutes of the Work Session of January 12, 2011 and the Regular Meeting Minutes of January 24, 2011 were presented to the Board for approval as amended.

Moved by: Trustee Walsh

Supported by: Trustee Minturn

THAT the Board approve the Minutes for January, 2011 as amended.

Ayes: Trustees Dindoffer, Gafa, Jakubiec, Minturn, Pangborn, Steininger and Walsh

Nays: None

Motion carried by a 7 – 0 vote.

C. Approval of Budget Development Parameters/Budget Preparation

The Budget Development Parameters and Budget Preparation were discussed at length in the work session preceding the board meeting this evening.

It was Moved by: Trustee Gafa

Supported by: Trustee Pangborn

THAT the Budget Development Parameters/Budget Preparation document be approved as presented.

Ayes: Trustees Dindoffer, Gafa, Jakubiec, Minturn, Pangborn, Steininger and Walsh

Nays: None

Motion carried by a 7 – 0 vote.

D. Approval of Reinstatement Panel

Board Policy 5611, Due Process, calls for the Board to appoint a Reinstatement Review Panel composed of two Board members, one administrator, one teacher, and one parent to review a petition for reinstatement of a student following expulsion when such a petition is received during the school year. The Board is asked to approve a Reinstatement Review Panel to serve from February through December, 2011 to handle any requests for reinstatement that is presented.

A panel and alternates have been identified with the assistance of the PTO Council and GPEA. Board members are Judy Gafa and Cindy Pangborn with Joan Dindoffer as alternate; administrator is Mark Mulholland with Mary McDonald Barrett as alternate; the teacher panel member is Ranae Beyerlein with Suzanne Jabara as alternate; and parent representative and alternate are Terri Murphy and Kim Clextion respectively.

Moved by: Trustee Walsh
Supported by: Trustee Jakubiec

THAT the Board approve the Reinstatement Panel as presented.

Ayes: Trustees Dindoffer, Gafa, Jakubiec, Minturn, Pangborn, Steininger and Walsh

Nays: None

Motion carried by a 7 – 0 vote.

Trustee Dindoffer noted that the configuration of the Reinstatement Panel is prescribed by state law.

E. Approval of NWEA Student License Fees

For the past four years the district has used the assessment developed by the Northwest Evaluation Association (NWEA), a non-profit organization, as the cornerstone of its student assessment program in grades 1-8. This assessment is given online to students three times a year and provides a continuous update of skill development for students in these grades. Teachers receive immediate results of the assessment and can quickly modify instruction when appropriate to address the current academic needs of students in reading and mathematics. Along with the traditional MEAP tests and the Grosse Pointe Writing Assessment, NWEA provides a comprehensive view of language arts and mathematics skill development for students in grades 1-8. In recent years counselors have begun using the NWEA for new students who enter the high schools and have found it to be a valuable placement tool. Once students are tested, NWEA provides a number of significant instructional supports to assist teachers in getting the most value of the information provided through the assessment. Administrators and teachers agree that the use of NWEA is of tremendous benefit to the instructional program.

NWEA charges an annual fee of \$12.50 for each student license. There has been no change in this charge over the past four years. For 2010-11 licensing fees amount to \$71,012.50 which is already accounted for in the budget for the Department of Curriculum, Instruction, Assessment and Technology.

Moved by: Trustee Jakubiec
Supported by: Trustee Pangborn

THAT the Board approve the NWEA Student License Fees as presented.

Ayes: Trustees Dindoffer, Gafa, Jakubiec, Minturn, Pangborn, Steininger and Walsh

Nays: None

Motion carried by a 7 – 0 vote.

F. Approval of Additional Staffing

1. Approval of Additional Classroom Assistant Staffing for Monteith (ERC)

The assigned teacher in the special education elementary resource classroom (ERC) at Monteith Elementary School currently provides service to 26 students who are identified at-risk in their both social and academic areas. There are students with significant unique educational needs who receive instructional support by the one (1) special education certified resource room teacher assigned to Monteith Elementary. Given the behavioral and academic needs of the students assigned to this classroom and the number of students, Mr. Keith Howell has requested the addition of a classroom assistant.

That the Board approves the additional allocation of a 1.0 FTE classroom assistant for the balance of the school year to provide support in the Elementary Resource Classroom (ERC) at Monteith

Elementary School due to the unique needs of the students and the class size of 26 students.

Moved by: Trustee Walsh

Supported by: Trustee Dindoffer

THAT the Board approve the Additional Classroom Assistant Staffing Request for Monteith in the ERC.

Ayes: Trustees Dindoffer, Gafa, Jakubiec, Minturn, Pangborn, Steininger and Walsh

Nays: None

Motion carried by a 7 – 0 vote.

2. Approval of Additional Social Work Allocation for Pierce Middle School

Pierce Middle School students currently receive the support of a school social worker for three (3) days a week (0.6 FTE). At Pierce Middle School, there are four (4) special education classrooms: Resource Room (2 classrooms), Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD) and Emotional Impairment (EI). At Pierce Middle School, the classroom for middle school students with emotional impairments across the district that may require more intensive academic and behavioral support, are provided their individual educational program (IEP). Per recent identification, placement, and service needs of students in this classroom, additional school social work support is needed to assist the staff and the students in this setting. This request would increase the support of the school social worker for the second semester from 0.6 to 0.8 F.T.E. (second semester only). Distribution of school social worker services across the district will be reviewed again with special education administration and building administration for the upcoming 2011-2012 school year.

Moved by: Trustee Walsh

Supported by: Trustee Dindoffer

THAT the Board approve the Additional Social Work Allocation for Pierce Middle School.

Ayes: Trustees Dindoffer, Gafa, Jakubiec, Minturn, Pangborn, Steininger and Walsh

Nays: None

Motion carried by a 7 – 0 vote.

G. Approval of Request for Proposal for Professional Services

Mr. Fenton explained the request for a Proposal for Professional Services is to search for a replacement for Dr. Klein who has announced her retirement at the end of the calendar year. The Proposal submitted to the Board requests approval to begin the search for those services only.

Trustee Dindoffer is supportive of the Request for the Proposal for Professional Services but would like to note that the cover sheet states that the Proposal submissions are due on March 18 and the date referenced in the Request for Proposal states March 15. She said that she would like to amend the Proposal to have a consistent submission date in each area where dates are needed and that only a hard copy, not an electronic copy, should be submitted on the 15th of March, 2011.

Attached is a resolution calling for the Board of Education to utilize the services of a professional search firm for the purposes of hiring a replacement for Dr. Klein who has announced her retirement at the end of December, 2011.

The resolution calls for the submission of proposals for services and the proposals will be brought to the Board of Education for final approval. This resolution does not commit the Board to a particular firm or process and only gives the authority to seek proposals.

In general, such firms accept and review candidate applications from across the nation and work in an advisory role to the Board of Education in their candidate search process.

The attached resolution only authorizes the Board of Education to issue a Request for Proposal for such professional services. The resolution calls for issuance of the RFP no later than March 4, 2011 with responses required to be received by the Board of Education no later than 5:00 PM on March 15, 2011.

It was Moved by: Trustee Dindoffer

Supported by: Trustee Gafa

THAT the Board approve the Request for Proposal for Professional Services as amended.

Ayes: Trustees Dindoffer, Gafa, Jakubiec, Minturn, Pangborn, Steininger and Walsh

Motion carried by a 7 – 0 vote.

H. Approval of Resolution for Committee Proposal

Trustee Walsh said that at its February 15, 2011 Work Session the Board of Education participated in a discussion regarding the district's Strategic Plan. As discussed that evening, an effective Board of Education is integral to the execution of both a Strategic Plan and the maintenance of a high performance school system.

The Grosse Pointe Public School System Board of Education has proven to be an effective governing body. Comments from Board members at the February 15th session reflected unanimity that all see room for improvement in a variety of areas that affect Board effectiveness.

Given the nature of the opportunity, greater dialog is required to catalog issues, identify root cause, find and recommend solutions, and establish a means to self-monitor for effectiveness of recommendations and other opportunities for continuous improvement.

Mr. Walsh stated that such work is best suited to a committee. The Resolution he provided asks the Board to establish a standing Committee for a Better Board whose charter would be to endeavor to identify solutions that could be brought forth to the Board as either suggestions both of a formal nature (perhaps as policies) or merely as informal, but equally important, suggestions.

As the Committee for a Better Board commenced its work, presuming Board support, Mr. Walsh asked the administration to be represented by Lee Warras who can serve as liaison for the administration.

Moved by: Trustee Pangborn

Supported by: Trustee Jakubiec

THAT the Board table the Resolution for Committee Proposal.

It was Moved by: Trustee Walsh

THAT the Board reject the motion to table the Resolution for Committee Proposal and place it on the March 28, 2011 agenda for approval.

Trustee Dindoffer said that she would rather leave the subject open-ended as the Board is committed to having further dedicated discussions on the topic. She does not wish to have a resolution as prescribed in the proposal submitted for approval this evening without significant discussion.

Ayes: Trustees Gafa, Jakubiec,

Halfway through a roll call vote, Trustee Dindoffer moved to layer another motion that would table

	<p>and have the Board commit to resolving Board interactions without a specific plan this evening, but that the President and administration would come back with specifics on how to proceed with this goal.</p> <p>President Steininger asked if a layered motion can be introduced in the middle of a vote. Trustee Dindoffer noted that it probably does not follow Roberts Rules of Order. Thus the roll call vote continued.</p> <p>Ayes to Table: Trustees Dindoffer, Gafa, Jakubiec, Pangborn and Steininger Nays: Trustees Minturn and Walsh</p> <p>Motion carried to table by a 5 – 2 vote.</p>
<p>ACTION ITEMS FOR MARCH 28, 2011</p>	<p>A. Approval of Human Resources Report for March, 2011</p> <p>This information will be available to the Board prior to the March 28, 2011 meeting.</p> <p>B. Approval of Minutes for February, 2011</p> <p>Minutes of February, 2011 Board meetings will be available prior to the next regular meeting.</p> <p>C. Approval of Appointment of Auditors</p> <p>Mr. Fenton said that the intent of the administration is to bring a proposal to the Board for a two year extension for the current auditors, BDO Seidman. The proposal information will be available prior to the March regular meeting of the Board. There would not be a bidding process, but a renewal based on the same amount as this year.</p> <p>Board members expressed an interest in getting RFP's (Requests for Proposals) from other auditing firms for the district's needs.</p> <p>Mr. Fenton said that he would like to maintain the current auditors for the remainder of the year so that they may complete the remaining work relevant to the prior audit and the new contracts.</p> <p>Board members would like to receive information on how many years BDO Seidman has done the auditing work for the district as well as send out RFP's for the district's auditing needs.</p> <p>It was Moved by: Trustee Walsh Supported by: Trustee Dindoffer</p> <p>THAT the district received other Requests for Proposals for auditing services from other firms to support the district's needs.</p> <p>Ayes: Trustees Dindoffer, Gafa, Jakubiec, Minturn, Pangborn, Steininger and Walsh Nays: None</p> <p>Motion carried by a 7 – 0 vote.</p> <p>Trustee Walsh said that RFP's for auditors was a low priority for him.</p> <p>Trustee Steininger said he would like a discussion from BDO Seidman on the possibility of lowering their fees.</p> <p>Mr. Fenton asked that this item be removed from next month's agenda while Requests for Proposals are solicited and received.</p>

	<p>D. Approval of Brownell Univent</p> <p>Bids for replacement of classroom unit ventilators at Brownell Middle School were received in February, 2011. Fourteen companies attended the mandatory pre-bid meeting and six submitted bids. The project will be funded from the sinking fund.</p> <p>The administration is recommending that the Board award the bid to Detroit Contracting, Inc. for \$240,000.</p> <p>E. Approval of South Lighting and Ceiling Phase II</p> <p>The scope of work for the corridor lighting and ceiling replacement at South includes new lighting fixtures, wiring, energy efficient control system for lighting and new ceiling and plaster repair as needed. Twenty companies attended the mandatory pre-bid meeting and seven submitted bids. The project has undergone extensive review by the Preservation Committee at South. The project will be funded from the sinking fund.</p> <p>The administration is recommending that the Board award the bid to ACME Enterprises, Inc. for \$319,265.</p> <p>F. Approval of Distinguished Volunteer Recognition Resolution</p> <p>Since 1984 the Board has been expressing its appreciation to citizens who volunteer their time and effort for the programs and activities of the public schools. Prior to the presentation of the engraved golden apples, it is appropriate to recognize and thank this year's volunteer award recipients through the adoption of the resolution provided.</p> <p>G. Approval to Assume Operation of Full Circle Resale Shop</p> <p>The discussion for the district to assume operation of the Full Circle Resale Shop continued from the evening's work session that was held at 6:30 p.m.</p> <p>Trustee Pangborn inquired about the Full Circle becoming part of the school system's curriculum if operation were assumed by the district or if it would be an extra-curricular. She also asked about the district's responsibilities and parameters should the district assume operation of the Resale Shop. Dr. Klein responded that the activities that students are doing at the Resale Shop are part of in their IEP goals. (Individualized Educational Plans) which are provided in district schools when available or in other community based services. It does not require a change in the curriculum.</p> <p>Trustee Jakubiec said that he hopes there is a community based group that can assume responsibility for the Full Circle Resale Shop.</p>
<p>INFORMATION AND DISCUSSION</p>	<p>A. Monthly Financial Report</p> <p>Mr. Fenton noted that there were no changes from the prior month as expenditures and revenue are according to the trend expected and in line with the Budget Model Utility. He did note that he was concerned about rising heating bills with the cold winter being experienced in Michigan and the rise in gas prices.</p> <p>B. Health Care Reports</p> <p>Mr. Harwood noted that the district has stable health care costs and is on target with health care expenses as stated in the district's current Budget Utility Model. He said that health care costs are about \$100,000 to the good at this point in the year and on track with where administration thought they would be.</p>

FUTURE MEETINGS	President Steininger then announced that there will be a 6:30 p.m. Budget Work Session and an 8:00 p.m. Regular Meeting of the Board on March 28, 2011 in the South Wicking Library.
PUBLIC COMMENTS ON NON-ACTION ITEMS	No one came forward to speak at this time.
OTHER COMMENTS FROM BOARD AND SUPERINTENDENT	<p>Trustee Minturn had no comment.</p> <p>Trustee Gafa congratulated the art students recognized this evening for their achievements.</p> <p>Trustee Pangborn had no comment.</p> <p>Trustee Jakubiec also congratulated the art students recognized this evening.</p> <p>Trustee Walsh spoke about the concerns for the budget at the state level. He noted that Lansing has a great impact on what will happen with the K-12 funding. He added that the district is in a good place financially to deal with the changes that will come from the Governor's proposal. Mr. Walsh also asked fellow Board members to keep up the momentum for Board change as leaders in the district.</p> <p>Trustee Dindoffer congratulated the art students recognized this evening. She thanked fellow Board members for the productive discussions this evening, especially Mr. Walsh for his work on the budget proposal and for accommodating fellow Board members' questions and concerns.</p> <p>Dr. Klein said it was a pleasure to acknowledge the fine and performing arts curriculum area by recognizing the high school art students. She noted that the district schools will be holding many musicals, concerts and plays for all community members to enjoy. Dr. Klein congratulated Defer as she visited there during the conclusion of the school's Mini-Society activities that teach the social studies and economics strand of the curriculum. The students set up their own company selling products, learning about supply and demand and creating their own currency. This project aligns with the high school D.E.C.A. program where students create their own business plans. This is an example of the K-12 sweep of some of the curriculum goals and experiences that cross all levels.</p> <p>President Steininger congratulated the high school art students on their recent recognition and awards. He noted his concern about Governor Snyder's budget proposal as noted by Trustee Walsh earlier. Mr. Steininger said that he felt the district was well positioned to absorb the state cuts when the budget is finalized.</p> <p>President Steininger also shared the news that Dr. Klein has announced her retirement at the end of the year. He stated that he would be very sorry to see her leave the district and, having received that information, it is time to begin the search for her replacement which would be difficult but not insurmountable.</p>
ADJOURNMENT	There being no further business, President Steininger adjourned the meeting at 8:59 p.m.

Board Secretary