



Grosse Pointe Board of Education
Minutes of the Regular Meeting of January 24, 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 8:00 p.m.
CALL TO ORDER	<p>The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Trustee Walsh.</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>
ANNUAL ORGANIZATIONAL ITEMS	<p>A. Administration of Oath of Office of Newly Elected Trustee</p> <p>The Board election held on November 2, 2010 resulted in the election of incumbent Brendan Walsh to a four-year term. Grosse Pointe Woods Municipal Judge Ted Metry was in attendance and administered the Oath of Office to Trustee Walsh.</p> <p>B. Election of Officers</p> <p>Board Bylaw 0152 indicates that the Board shall annually elect Board officers at its organizational meeting. The new president then conducts the remainder of the meeting starting with the election of the 2010 vice-president. Elections for the positions of secretary and treasurer are then conducted before proceeding with the remainder of the agenda.</p> <p>It was Moved by: Trustee Pangborn Supported by: Trustee Jakubiec</p> <p>THAT Mr. Steininger be nominated and remain as President of the Board of Education.</p> <p>Ayes: Trustees Dindoffer, Gafa, Jakubiec, Minturn, Pangborn, Steininger and Walsh Nays: None Motion carried by a 7 – 0 vote.</p> <p>It was Moved by: Trustee Steininger Supported by: Trustee Pangborn</p> <p>THAT Mrs. Dindoffer be nominated and remain as Vice President of the Board of Education.</p> <p>Ayes: Trustees Dindoffer, Gafa, Jakubiec, Minturn, Pangborn, Steininger and Walsh Nays: None Motion carried by a 7 – 0 vote.</p> <p>It was Moved by: Trustee Dindoffer Supported by: Trustee Steininger</p> <p>THAT Mrs. Gafa be nominated and remain as Secretary of the Board of Education.</p> <p>Ayes: Trustees Dindoffer, Gafa, Jakubiec, Minturn, Pangborn, Steininger and Walsh Nays: None Motion carried by a 7 – 0 vote.</p> <p>It was Moved by: Trustee Gafa Supported by: Trustee Minturn</p>

THAT Mr. Walsh be nominated and remain as Treasurer of the Board of Education.

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

Nays: Trustees Jakubiec and Pangborn

Motion carried by a 5 – 2 vote.

C. Declaration of Board Member Compensation Preference

Trustee Jakubiec elected to receive his compensation and invest it “how he sees best in the district.” He will donate his compensation to the Ferry rock wall.

Trustee Pangborn will receive her compensation to invest in some of the volunteer activities that she works for within the school system.

Trustee Minturn declined compensation for his time on the Board.

Trustee Dindoffer declined compensation for her time on the Board.

Trustee Gafa elected to receive her compensation to invest in the Grosse Pointe and Harper Woods Family Center.

Trustee Walsh elected to receive his compensation to donate it to the Latin Club of South High School.

Trustee Steininger accepted his compensation to donate it to the 100 Club of Detroit.

D. Approval of Resolution on Continuance of Funds and Designation of Signatories on Accounts

A resolution provided to the Board names the funds and accounts that need to be established and/or continued for the calendar year 2011. The Board is asked to adopt the resolution provided pertaining to the continuance of funds and accounts and signatories on accounts.

It was Moved by: Trustee Walsh

Supported by: Trustee Minturn

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

Nays: None

Motion carried by a 7 – 0 vote.

E. Approval of Appointment of Christian Fenton and Isha Smith as Representatives to MAISL for Property/Liability Insurance Underwriter

The Grosse Pointe Public School System is a member of the Metropolitan Association for Improved Legislation (M.A.I.S.L.) Joint Risk Management Trust which is a property/liability insurance pool. This is composed of 35 districts/ISD’s. Claims administration and risk management are provided by Gallagher Bassett.

M.A.I.S.L. is a trust voluntarily established by contracting school districts pursuant to Section 2 and Section 5 of Chapter 124 of the Michigan Compiled Laws for the purpose of providing to participating school districts such services and security as are approved by the board of directors and permitted by the laws of the State of Michigan to provide property, casualty, Board liability, general liability, excess liability, auto and fleet insurance among others.

Article 11 of the agreement states that obligation of its members which includes the selection of a staff person as a director and alternate director. Currently Christian A. Fenton services as the director and Isha Smith as an alternate director. Administration recommends the Board reappoint Christian A. Fenton as director and Isha Smith as the alternate director to the M.A.I.S.L. Joint Risk Management Trust Board for 2011.

	<p>It was Moved by: Trustee Walsh Supported by: Trustee Minturn</p> <p>Ayes: Trustees Dindoffer, Gafa, Jakubiec, Minturn, Pangborn, Steininger and Walsh Nays: None Motion carried by a 7 – 0 vote.</p> <p>F. Approval of Regular Board Meeting Calendar for 2011</p> <p>Monthly meetings of the Board of Education will be held at 8:00 p.m. on the dates listed unless otherwise notified. Meetings from January through August, 2011, will be held in the Library at Grosse Pointe South High School, and meetings as of September, 2011 will move to North High School. Due to extensive parking lot renovations at North High School in July and possibly August, Board meetings will remain at South High School until September, 2011.</p> <p>It was Moved by: Trustee Walsh Supported by: Trustee Pangborn</p> <p>Ayes: Trustees Dindoffer, Gafa, Jakubiec, Minturn, Pangborn, Steininger and Walsh Nays: None Motion carried by a 7 – 0 vote.</p>
<p>SUPERINTENDENT’S REPORT</p>	<p>A. Grosse Pointe Foundation for Public Education Climb for Technology – Recognition of Dr. Russ Chavey</p> <p>Dr. Klein welcomed the Grosse Pointe Foundation for Public Education members and Dr. Russ Chavey, who climbed Mt. Kilimanjaro in support of the district’s technology challenge and to assist the efforts of the Foundation. Mr. Robert Bury introduced Dr. Chavey, his wife, Dr. Christy Winder, and Dr. Chavey then spoke about the significance of the climb up Mt. Kilimanjaro. He noted that the effort raised money for the school district assisting their efforts to deploy the technology; introduced a new group of people to the Grosse Pointe Foundation for Public Education through the climb; and involved students who were the beneficiaries of this project. Students began tracking Dr. Chavey’s climb from the beginning of the journey, learning about a number of interesting topics ranging from social studies issues, to science and geography.</p> <p>Dr. Chavey showed some of the slides that he took on his climb and described the messages he was able to send on his Blackberry while undertaking his journey. On Sunday, January 30, 2011, Dr. Chavey will be at Moosejaw in the Village to share his expedition with other interested persons in the community.</p> <p>B. Recognitions</p> <p>1. North Valhalla, Shari Adwers, Certified Journalism Educator</p> <p>The Journalism Education Association (JEA), a national organization headquartered in Kansas, awarded North teacher, Shari Adwers, status as a Certified Journalism Educator, making her one of only 404 teachers in the nation with this distinction. The certification recognizes teachers who have achieved national standards in teaching and advising a journalism related course.</p> <p>2. South Girls Varsity Cross Country – Regional Champions</p> <p>The girls cross country team from South, which numbered 108 members, finished a perfect season with a 14 – 0 record, winning the MAC red championship, numerous invitational titles along with the state regional championship. Team members were Meghan Dziedzic, Christina Firl, Natalie Gay, Kelly Langton, Margaret Levasseur, Haley Meier, and Hannah Meier. The girls also finished in the states’ top ten for the 7th time in the last 10 years. Three runners earned All-State honors and</p>

included sophomores Hannah Meier, Haley Meier and Christina Firl. Hannah Meier, for the second straight year, was named to the states' Dream Team.

South's team is coached by Steve Zaranek, Leo Lamberti, and Tereza Schaible.

3. South Boys Varsity Tennis – Regional Champions

The South Boys Varsity Tennis team was also regional champions. Team players include: Edward Berkowski; Henry Brophy; Matthew Clune; David Cook; Daniel Garberding; Alexander Gosselin; Colden Gosselin; David Harris; Matthew Keane; Charles Miller; Alejandro Padilla; William Quinn; John Willard; and David Wittwer. Coaches are Tom Berschback and John Willard.

4. North Girls Field Hockey – All State Player, Nicole Strickland

Athletic Director from North High School, Carmen Kennedy, introduced North senior, Nicole Strickland, who won All State Player for girls' field hockey. Nicole is also a member of the girls' varsity basketball team and girls' softball team. Ms. Kennedy noted that not only is Nicole a great athlete, she also does well academically and in the visual arts such as photography. Ms. Kennedy congratulated Nicole and her parents on the wonderful achievements Nicole has accomplished thus far. Ms. Kennedy then introduced North girls' field hockey coach, Melissa Carron, who herself was a North student athlete at one time.

The Board wished Nicole and all of the student athletes congratulations on their accomplishments.

C. School Board Recognition

Dr. Klein noted that throughout the month of January, School Boards across the state will be receiving recognition and thanks for their service to the students and community. Their expertise, commitment and service become part of the school district's planning, thinking and long term quality assurance for the community's children. They join the administration for a variety of projects and are very involved in the many initiatives it takes to run the school district. There are a variety of other things that Board members do behind the scenes such as committees or special assignments, preparation for Board meetings, or as parents, with children in our schools, all of them support and take an interest in every aspect of the school system. They are ambassadors as well as School Board members.

Dr. Klein presented each Board member with a fleece vest with the Grosse Pointe Schools logo in appreciation for their service to the district.

D. Presentation on School Wide Positive Behavior Supports

Barnes Early Childhood Program Supervisor, Sue Banner, thanked Board members for making a difference with special needs children. Mrs. Banner, Director Deborah Jackson and Aimee Miller, the district's Behavior Consultant and Positive Behavior Support Coach, presented gifts to the Board of Education from the special needs students. Mrs. Banner then introduced Aimee Miller who noted that in 2007, The Wayne County Intermediate School District offered Grosse Pointe the opportunity to participate in a grant that would allocate training and funding for schools interested in creating a school wide system of positive behavior supports. Defer Elementary School was the first to be trained and made the commitment to participate. They began their program in 2008 with great success and became the blueprint for many of the district's other schools.

The grant from the Wayne County RESA supplies funding for three years to supplement the program support and guidance in addition to training and tools to implement the program.

School-wide Positive Behavior support is a team based, data driven system that focuses on positively addressing behavior issues from a school level, not a curriculum or intervention

	<p>framework. The concept is to improve academic and behavior outcomes ensuring that all students have access to the most effective practices and interventions possible. It consists of a three-tiered approach that requires that all students receive supports at the universal or primary tier. If behavior for some students is not responsive to those supports, more intensive supports are provided in the form of group or individualized plans. The three tiered approach focuses on preventing development of new cases of problem behavior, reducing existing cases and reducing the intensity and complexity of extremely challenging cases.</p> <p>School-wide Positive Behavior Supports create an environment that is positive, consistent and safe. It is data-based and data-driven. Expectations are taught and reinforced throughout the school with a common language being used by all school staff. This effort creates a school community that is predictable and is focused on student success.</p> <p>Schools develop a system of rewards or acknowledgements for students that are meeting expectations. These rewards increase class participation, reduce discipline problems, improve student motivation and serve as a forum for school community celebration.</p> <p>Data is reviewed monthly to drive decision making and change. Schools develop data and communication systems for office discipline referrals as well as classroom management behavior. The data is compiled and reviewed by teams monthly to help strengthen the program and give students access to interventions to support their needs.</p> <p>In the second and third years of implementation, schools work to create additional support systems for those students who are not responsive to primary supports and in need of more individualized interventions.</p> <p>For the 2010-2011 school year, Defer, Maire, Trombly, Pierce, Mason and Parcells are utilizing the grant opportunity through WCRESA.</p> <p>Student Services and Special Education Director, Deborah Jackson, congratulated Sue Banner, Aimee Miller and Sue Lucchese on the success of this program and wished them well as they continue to supplement the initiatives in other schools within the district.</p>
PUBLIC COMMENTS ON ACTION ITEMS	Mr. George McMullen, Jr., Grosse Pointe Woods resident, shared his support of the Resolution for Energy Refinancing on the agenda for Board approval at this evening's meeting.
ACTION ITEMS FOR JANUARY 24, 2011	<p>A. Approval of Human Resources Report for January, 2011</p> <p>The Human Resources Report contained the appointments of one .5 FTE plant/custodial position and one classroom assistant recall. There was also the resignation of one instructional staff member for personal reasons and one office staff person. All other appointments are replacements or otherwise within the 2010-11 budget allocation.</p> <p>1. Monthly Report for January, 2011</p> <p>It was Moved by: Trustee Walsh Supported by: Trustee Minturn</p> <p>Trustee Pangborn asked that the Human Resources items be voted on separately.</p> <p>Trustee Walsh withdrew his original motion and then Moved,</p> <p>THAT the Board approve just item #1, Monthly Human Resources Report as presented.</p> <p>Supported by: Trustee Minturn</p> <p>Ayes: Trustees Dindoffer, Gafa, Jakubiec, Minturn, Pangborn, Steininger and Walsh</p>

Nays: None
Motion carried by a 7 – 0 vote.

2. Additional Classroom Assistant Staffing

At Defer Elementary, there are two sections of first grade. The enrollment in these two classrooms has increased to where they are currently at 27 and 28 students in the classrooms. Per accepted Board parameters associated with class size that were established for the 2010-2011 budget, the grades 1-3 should not exceed 27 students. To accommodate and address the larger class size at Defer 1st grade, the recommendation is to provide additional instructional support to the classroom with a full time classroom assistant.

It was Moved by: Trustee Walsh

Supported by: Trustee Minturn

THAT the Board approve the additional classroom assistant staffing as requested.

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

Nays: Trustee Jakubiec

Motion carried by a 6 – 1 vote.

B. Approval of Closed Session and Regular Meeting Minutes of December 13, 2010

The Minutes of the Closed Session and Regular Meeting Minutes of December 13, 2010 were presented to the Board for approval.

Moved by: Trustee Walsh

Supported by: Trustee Minturn

THAT the Board approve the Minutes for December 13, 2010 as presented.

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

Board Treasurer, Brandon Walsh, presented objectives and key changes for the district's 2011-12 Budget Development Parameters. He noted that the purpose of the Budget Development Policy (6220) is to articulate "the preference of the Board in advance of budget development to avoid ambiguity and to allow the community to have a clear view of the budget development process from its inception." Also noted was the goal of the Board to identify specific goals and objectives for investment or reduction; identify particular budget related strategies to pursue or avoid; and be as specific as possible in terms of the objectives, while allowing for flexibility.

Financial assumptions for 2010-11 included: 8,064 student enrollment; moderate foundation allowance reduction; no restoration of 20J funds; MPSERS rate of 18.94%; employee salary increases; no new employee contracts; and Federal Revenue of \$3.8 million. The expected impact of those assumptions: additional revenue loss of \$1.1 million; accountability for 2009 mid-year cuts of \$3 million; cost increases of \$3.0 million; and a total projected shortfall of \$6.6 million.

Parameters were set taking those facts into account including: scaling staff to enrollment; setting class size guidelines and exploring other solutions; seeking efficiencies and revenue where possible; creating a fixed athletic budget of the total general fund expenditure; options to reduce building administration staff by two; exploring in-year reductions; pursuing new bargaining unit contracts; eliminating fund equity as an option; and designating special programs.

Teaching and non-teaching staff enrollment ratios were discussed before and after new contracts as well as employee total compensation on a per pupil basis.

Trustee Walsh then presented a history of the General Fund Equity from 1999 to the present. He contrasted the impact and significance of new staff contracts and how these will be linked to compensation and other variables in the budget. Restructured salary grids, health care contributions (with annual increase provisions) and a clause that, if the fund equity drops below 10%, all employee total compensation adjusts automatically to return it to 10% which impacts the contractual ability to adjust human resources costs and respond to funding variables as the district scales employees to enrollment.

Assumptions and projections for 2011-12 were discussed using the same variables and assumptions based on a ten year view of MPSERS rates, noting that the MPSERS rate is the most significant variable.

He concluded asking for feedback from Board members as well as members of the public. He requested suggestions be submitted in writing by January 10th to help prepare the resolution.

Board members had questions about the resolution and parameters submitted by Treasurer Walsh.

Trustee Jakubiec expressed that he had two and one half pages of questions and suggestions to discuss regarding the Parameter/Budget Preparation document. Other Board members shared comments and concerns relating to the document presented.

It was Moved by: Trustee Pangborn

Supported by: Trustee Jakubiec

THAT the approval of the Budget Development Parameters/Budget Preparation document be tabled until further discussion at a work session.

In a layered motion,

It was Moved by: Trustee Dindoffer

Supported by: Trustee Minturn

THAT this agenda item relating to the Budget Development Parameters/Budget Preparation document be tabled until the work session immediately preceding the next Board meeting on February 28, 2011.

By a roll call vote:

Trustee Jakubiec: Yes

Trustee Pangborn: Yes

Trustee Minturn – Yes

Trustee Dindoffer – Yes

Trustee Gafa – Yes

Trustee Walsh – No

Trustee Steininger – Yes

Motion carried by a 6 – 1 vote.

D. Approval of New Course – Middle School Graphic Design

This course will update the art curriculum to reflect changes in technology and design-based art education at the Middle School level and provide Middle School students a design-based class which included visual culture and graphic design.

The State has recognized that design-based art education is of such value to students that it is now a

requirement for incoming art teachers to take these art education courses in order to obtain certification.

Grosse Pointe middle schools offer 2D, 3D Explorations in Art, and 6th Grade Exploratory Art as courses. The curriculum included in these courses helps prepare students to take all of the courses offered at the high school level except for students taking courses in Photography, Communication Design, and Computer Graphics. The proposed Graphic Design class would include the areas of Photography by using Photoshop on the computer, Graphic Design (also called Communication Design at the high school level), and Computer Graphics by using Creative Suite 4 on the computer.

Moved by: Trustee Dindoffer

Supported by: Trustee Pangborn

THAT the Board approve the Middle School Graphic Design New Course as presented.

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

Nays: None

Motion carried by a 7 – 0 vote.

E. Approval of Extension of Existing Course for Grades 11 and 12 – Living On Your Own

The current offering for 'Living on your Own' is one-semester only. To meet the needs of an increasing number of students, the proposal is to expand the curriculum. Two distinct semesters have been developed, and students can take either or both semester offerings. This change is necessary to prepare and provide students with the necessary skills for life after high school that includes financial literacy and intelligent consumerism.

'Living on Your Own' prepares students to evaluate, coordinate, and function in multiple adult day-to-day living and working environments. Students will develop a personal sense of well-being to become contributing members of society as a worker, nurturer, and citizen. The main focus of study is financial literacy and identifying and implementing smart consumer choices.

Moved by: Trustee Pangborn

Supported by: Trustee Minturn

THAT the Board approve the Extension of Existing Course for Grades 11 and 12 – Living on Your Own.

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

Nays: None

Motion carried by a 7 – 0 vote.

F. Approval of Rental Agreement for Campus Classroom in Grosse Pointe Park

In developing the Special Education classroom on Kercheval in Grosse Pointe Park the administration signed a lease agreement with Grace United Church of Christ for 1 year for two classrooms to house the Community Campus program.

In preparing the lease agreement it was the understanding of the Business and Support Services Department that the Assistant Superintendent for Business had the authority to sign this short term lease.

Upon further review it was discovered that all leases for property must be approved by the Board of Education. The lease was reviewed by district legal counsel prior to signing and is for \$500 per month.

The Board is asked to approve the one year lease with Grace United Church of Christ for the Community Campus classrooms, a joint project with the Full Circle Upscale Resale Shop in Grosse Pointe Park.

Moved by: Trustee Minturn

Supported by: Trustee Pangborn

THAT the Board approve the Rental Agreement for the Community Campus Classroom in Grosse Pointe Park.

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

Nays: None

Motion carried by a 7 – 0 vote.

G. Approval of Resolution for Energy Refinancing

In 2001 the Board of Education approved the issuance Energy Bonds for energy improvements throughout the district. These improvements included windows, doors, HVAC system's etc. The 2001 Energy Bonds (Limited General Obligation Bonds) totaled \$7,275,000. The average yearly payment from the General Fund to the Debt Fund was approximately \$657,000 which covered the annual principal and interest payments. The remaining four years will be approximately \$711,000. The energy savings from the capital improvements paid for the interest payments over the life of the bond.

There are 5 years remaining on the Energy Bond. Since the original issue allows the district to refinance the current bonds, the district is faced with a few options:

- 1) Do nothing and continue paying off the bond on the original schedule
- 2) Refinance the remaining balance of the current Energy Bonds
- 3) Pay off the outstanding balance in total.

The administration, in discussion with Board Treasurer Mr. Walsh, has been reviewing the refinancing option for the last couple of months. The estimated savings after expenses is approximately \$23,000 per year.

At the January Board meeting, Trustee Jakubiec had asked for information on other options that might allow the district to pay off one half or three quarters of the bond, and, if there was an institution in the community that would be willing to provide (more) favorable financing for the remaining balance at or better than the cost of borrowing money for the six months until the district gets paid by the state. He asked to see these options before the January 24th Board meeting.

Mr. Fenton provided the following: 1) Resolution Authorizing Issuance of Refunding Bonds; 2) Draft of Preliminary Official statement; 3) Draft of timeline; and 4) Powerpoint presented at the Board work session on January 12, 2011.

Mr. Fenton said that he brought the item forth in December, then provided additional information at a work session on January 10th. He had no new information to provide the Board this evening aside from providing information on the three options that were previously offered. General consensus was that the first option was not a favorable option, nor was option three to pay off the outstanding balance. The recommendation from the administration remains the same, to refinance the remaining balance on of the current Energy Bonds. A change in dates to reflect the current date for vote and signatures on the resolution has also been added to the information provided this evening.

The Board is asked to adopt the resolution provided calling for the reissuance of 2011 Energy Conservation Refunding Bonds for the balance of the 2001 Energy Conservation Bonds.

President Steininger noted that he was in opposition to voting for this.

It was Moved by: Trustee Minturn

Supported by: Trustee Walsh

THAT the Board approve the Resolution for Energy Refinancing.

In a roll call vote,

Trustee Jakubiec – No

Trustee Pangborn – No

Trustee Minturn – Yes

Trustee Dindoffer – Yes

Trustee Steininger – No

Trustee Gafa – Yes

Trustee Walsh - Yes

Motion carried by a 4 – 3 vote.

H. Approval of Secondary School Technology Purchases

In September, the Board graciously accepted a gift of \$180,000 from the Grosse Pointe Foundation for Public Education which will be used to acquire and install classroom technology equipment.

The gift will be used for equipment, cabling and installation expenses and will provide funding to purchase classroom technology equipment for the three middle schools and two high schools. The staff from each secondary building participated in the process of determining the best use of the available funds.

Building	Equipment
Brownell Middle School	28,896
Parcells Middle School	30,524
Pierce Middle School	28,896
North High School	45,025
South High School	45,397
Totals	\$178,738

Detailed implementation plans were included with a report provided to the Board. These purchases are part of the second phase of the Foundation's plan to finish the work begun in 2007 to equip all instructional areas in the district with 21st century technology.

The Board is asked to approve the planned expenditures for the \$180,000 gift from the Grosse Pointe Foundation for Public Education.

Moved by: Trustee Pangborn

Supported by: Trustee Minturn

THAT the Board approve the Secondary School Technology Purchases.

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

Nays: None

Motion carried by a 7 – 0 vote.

ACTION ITEMS FOR FEBRUARY 28, 2011

A. Approval of Human Resources Report for February, 2011

This information will be available to the Board prior to the February 28, 2011 meeting.

	<p>B. Approval of Minutes for January, 2011</p> <p>Minutes of January, 2011 Board meetings will be available prior to the next regular meeting.</p> <p>C. Approval of Reinstatement Panel</p> <p>The administration is reviewing the recommendation for the parent delegates before their next meeting in February.</p> <p>E. Approval of NWEA Student License Fees</p> <p>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.</p> <p>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. This expenditure is already accounted for in the budget for the Department of Curriculum, Instruction, Assessment and Technology.</p>
<p>INFORMATION AND DISCUSSION</p>	<p>A. Monthly Financial Report</p> <p>Mr. Fenton noted that there was no new information other than actual account balances as anticipated and aligned with the General Appropriations Act and the Budget Model Utility Report.</p> <p>B. Health Care Reports</p> <p>Mr. Harwood noted that the district has stabilized health care costs as many of the employees who retired with the buyout have now left the district's health care program. This transition allows the district's health care costs to stabilize over the last couple of months bringing health care costs to become well within predicted health care expenses for the year.</p> <p>Trustee Jakubiec asked for input from Mr. Harwood on the expectations for health care spending for the remainder of this year; how far under budget the district came; and with the contributions for next year what the administration would realistically forecast vs. just taking a 5% estimate over this year.</p> <p>C. Middle School Program of Studies</p> <p>The current Middle School Program of Studies continues to reflect changes and improvements in the district curriculum and to clarify district regulations to make them more accessible to parents and students. The major curriculum changes in this year's Middle School Program of Studies is the addition of a new Art elective course for 7th and 8th graders and the realignment of English course titles and the descriptions for grade 6.</p>

	<p>Other changes include: updated Board member and administrator roster; Department Chairs, and summer school date changes; new art elective to 7th and 8th grade elective choices; rewording of course description for Explorations in Drama; and the renaming of courses and updates in course descriptions to reflect current English/Language Arts Curriculum.</p> <p>Trustee Dindoffer noted that 6th and 7th grade honors math courses had been omitted from the Program of Studies and should be included as soon as feasible.</p>
FUTURE MEETINGS	<p>President Steininger then announced that there will be a 7:00 p.m. Work Session and an 8:00 p.m. Regular Meeting on February 28, 2011 in the South Wicking Library.</p>
PUBLIC COMMENTS ON NON-ACTION ITEMS	<p>Mr. Srebernak, assistant football coach at South High School and Grosse Pointe Park resident, shared his support of Tim Brandon, head football coach at South, and the support of the administration at South.</p>
OTHER COMMENTS FROM BOARD AND SUPERINTENDENT	<p>Trustee Gafa thanked Dr. Chavey for his climb for technology initiative as well as the Special Education students for their gifts this evening. She also thanked Dr. Klein for recognizing the Board's service.</p> <p>Trustee Pangborn said that she, again, would have no comments, but rather, would like to discuss new business. She said she is anxious to see a report on multi-age classroom, and also discussed senior yearbook pictures at Stewart Photography and the composite. She asked Mr. Fenton if he could solve the issue of parents having to physically take the digital photo in to the store as opposed to sending it electronically.</p> <p>Mrs. Pangborn also discussed a misconception about having a child's immunizations completed at the time of kindergarten registration. She noted that they are eligible to sign their child up without completed immunizations at this time. Trustee Pangborn encouraged parents to sign up for the school they prefer as room will be made for each child.</p> <p>Trustee Minturn was "touched" and appreciated the special gifts the Board received this evening, especially the items from the students. He also said he appreciates the efforts of Dr. Chavey to make the climb up Kilimanjaro for the "climb for technology" initiative. He thanked the Grosse Pointe Foundation for Public Education for the continued generosity to the school district.</p> <p>Trustee Minturn congratulated the new officers, the same slate as last year. He looks forward to working in a spirit of cooperation and productivity.</p> <p>Trustee Walsh extended his condolences to the family of South student, Demere Hudson. He thanked those administration, teachers and students who took an interest in Demere and tried to help him during his time at South.</p> <p>Trustee Dindoffer echoed the thoughts and sentiments of everything already shared by other Board members. She thanked the administration and students for recognizing the Board with their thoughts and generosity. She noted that she was appreciative of the democratic process and discourse among the Board members in their efforts to work on issues and topics of concern in the district. Mrs. Dindoffer also noted that deliberation among Board members leading to a Board decision is appropriately raised in the forum of an open meeting.</p> <p>Dr. Klein thanked Dr. Chavey and the Grosse Pointe Foundation for Public Education for their generous gifts, support and commitment to the district and its students. She noted that January 27, 2011 will be Kindergarten Information Night in elementary schools across the district. On Thursday, January 20, the district along with Mr. Fenton and other central office administration, hosted a Community Forum for leaders in the community with a tour of Brownell and the new multipurpose room there. She thanked those who took time out of busy schedules to attend the</p>

	<p>meeting.</p> <p>Dr. Klein congratulated the music students in K-12 who participated in the recent Band O Rama and String Extravaganza Concerts. She reminded students and parents that the district is entering the second semester of the school year with finals quickly approaching.</p> <p>Trustee Jakubiec thanked those recognized earlier this evening. He echoed the wonderful things said about Dr. Chavey, noting that the climb up Kilimanjaro was very encouraging. He congratulated the student athletes honored this evening also. He thanked the students for remembering the Board members with their gifts. He also addressed the importance of building level scorecards.</p> <p>President Steininger made note of the Public Forum last week. He thanked the staff at Brownell who welcomed Board members and community members to tour the new facility which was the last of the Bond projects. He thanked the community for recognizing the hard work of the Board members. He thanked Dr. Chavey for his mountain climb which resulted in a substantial amount gift to the school system. He was also thankful to be recognizing student athletes who were committed to excellence in athletics. He thanked Mr. Walsh for his commitment for four more years on the Board, noting that that is a tremendous commitment for any individual to take on. He then thanked fellow Board trustees for their trust in him and voting him as President for another year.</p>
ADJOURNMENT	There being no further business, President Steininger adjourned the meeting at 11:23 p.m.

Board Secretary