



Grosse Pointe Board of Education
Minutes of the Regular Meeting of December 19, 2011
Wicking Library, South High School
11 Grosse Pointe Blvd., Grosse Pointe Farms, MI 48236

<p>MEETING MINUTES</p> <p>CALL TO ORDER</p>	<p>President Steininger called the meeting to order at 8:03 p.m.</p> <p>The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Trustee Jakubiec.</p> <p>Board members present: Trustees Dindoffer, Gafa, Jakubiec, Steininger and Walsh</p> <p>Absent: Trustees Minturn and Pangborn</p> <p>Also Present: Superintendent Klein; Assistant Superintendents Beels, Fenton and Harwood; and Executive Director Warras</p>
<p>SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT</p>	<p>A. Acceptance of Office and Affidavit of Eligibility</p> <p>The Board election held on November 8, 2011 resulted in the election of Lois Valente and Daniel Roeske to four-year terms. At the January Board meeting, both candidates will take the oath of office and be sworn in officially as new Board members.</p> <p>B. Recognition of Board Members, John Steininger and Fred Minturn</p> <p>Departing Board members, President John Steininger and Trustee Fred Minturn, were honored with Pewabic tiles as gifts from the school district for their dedication and service to the students and staff throughout the district. Mr. Minturn received his gift at the November Board meeting as he was unable to attend this evening's meeting.</p> <p>C. Recognition of Advanced Placement Scholars from North High School</p> <p>With the assistance of President Steininger, North High School Principal Tim Bearden and Assistant Principal Kate Murray, Dr. Klein recognized those students being honored for their exemplary performance, earning scores high enough to garner college credit from their AP tests. Those in attendance who were recognized as <i>Advanced Placement Scholars from North</i>: Joseph Carron; Amy Cooper; Nicole Fricke; Marco Leggett; Allison Maggart; Megan McCuen; James McNelis; Carly Mellos; Daniel Schrage; Claire Schreiber; Stacy Sharono; Stephanie Shenouda; Ian Thompson; Stamatia Tsakos; Suzanne Vyletel; and Ryan Waggoner.</p> <p><i>Advanced Placement Scholars with Honor:</i> Michelle Burns; Natasha Eklund; Jaclyn Gabel; Zachary Jatkowski; Mary Krusz; Christian Mellos; Kimberly Morawski; Rachel Premack; Mattehwy Przybysz; Justin Rakowixz; and Brett Slajus.</p> <p><i>Advanced Placement Scholars with Distinction:</i> Roxanne Ilagan; Kevin Kain, II; Alexandra Krawetz; Mark Linington; Tristan Mora; Andrew Remenar; Edward Surmont; Kathryn Van Egmond; and Nathan Vengalil.</p> <p>D. Recognition of Journalism Students from South High School</p> <p>The Journalism Education Association sponsored write-off awards at the National Scholastic Press Association recognizing the following students: Meghan Flanagan, Excellent in Feature Writing; Margaret Fikany, Excellent in Review Writing; Alexander Knuth, Excellent in Sports Writing. The South student Tower Newspaper won an award for the Best in Show (6th place) and the Pacemaker Award from the Journalism Education Association.</p>

	<p>E. Recognition of Thespian Festival Winners</p> <p>Michigan's Largest annual theatre event is the Michigan Thespian Festival. It is an exciting week-end in which students from across the state can share together in their common love for the theatre arts. The following students were recognized: Carolyn Alam for Superior Musical Solo and Superior Musical Duet; Rachel Brieden for Superior Monologue; Jack Daley for Superior Group Musical; Emma Hintzen for Superior Group Musical; Spencer Sullivan for Superior Group Musical; and Christina Swanson for Superior Musical Duet and Superior Group Musical. Their advisor is Lois Bendler.</p> <p>F. Recognition of Photographers and Designers for the Day in the Life of the Grosse Pointe Schools Project</p> <p>Dr. Klein then recognized the photographers and designers involved in the production of "A Day in the Life" photo album of the district students for one day. Those photographers honored were: Christine Crossley; Gary Duncan; John Grielick; Mary Ann Ismail; Dana Kaiser; Renee Landuyt; John F. Martin; Cat Ruffner; Shelia Springsteen; Lisa Vreede; Kathy Widdis; and Brian Widdis.</p> <p>G. Recognition of Gary Abud, Michigan 2012 Teacher of Promise</p> <p>Dr. Klein also recognized Gary Abud, district Science teacher, who has received the 2012 Science Teacher of Promise award from the Michigan Science Teachers Association. North Principal Tim Bearden noted that Mr. Abud is a gift to North High School.</p> <p>Dr. Klein thanked Nancy Eckert and the Grade 4/5 Magnet students at Defer Elementary School for the outstanding work on the <i>Brain Game</i> event that they recently held for students and parents.</p>
<p>PUBLIC COMMENTS ON REGULAR ACTION ITEMS</p>	<p>No one came forward to comment at this time.</p>
<p>AGENDA ACTION ITEMS FOR DECEMBER 19, 2011</p>	<p>A. Approval of Gift from the Grosse Pointe Foundation for Public Education</p> <p>The Foundation's Grant Committee made recommendations to the Foundation Board at their meeting December 8, 2011 to approve a group of grant requests which were submitted for their consideration. The Foundation Board then approved the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Middle School Cyber Bullying - a request for \$2100 to fund activities at each of the three middle schools to fund character education activities which promote appropriate respect and responsible behavior. As a result of this gift, each school will be able to expand their initiatives in this important area. • Gearheads Robotic Team - North and South students join forces in a variety of activities and competitions in robotics. This grant of \$5000 will help fund their participation fees and other expenses. • Smart Response XE Clickers – Grosse Pointe South has requested a grant of \$2849 to purchase additional clickers to support classroom instruction. • FAST Spelling Pilot Study -The district currently uses FAST Reading instructional materials and would like to pilot the new FAST spelling program. The request of \$4250 will fund materials to pilot these materials in several elementary schools and evaluate the results. • One School, One Book – Poupard Elementary School has requested \$760 to help underwrite this school-wide program which will provide each Poupard student with a copy of the book selected and staff with a series of activities to use as all students and

families read the book together.

- **Full Circle Upscale Resale Shop** - A request for \$1211 of funding to help with expansion and support of the store's activities by funding purchase of additional racks, software and a printer.
- **Directed Gift for FAST Reading** – A gift for \$30,000 has been approved by the Foundation Board for the purchase of additional FAST training and materials

It was Moved by: Trustee Dindoffer

Supported by: Trustee Gafa

THAT the Board approve the Gifts from the Grosse Pointe Foundation for Public Education as presented.

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

Nays: None

Absent: Trustees Minturn and Pangborn

Motion carried by a 5 – 0 vote.

Foundation President, Mr. Robert Bury, then introduced Jon and Lisa Gandelot who are part of the Ellen K. and Edward T. Dryer Charitable Foundation for the FAST Reading Program. Mr. Gandelot spoke about his support of the program and the opportunity to be part of the Dryer Foundation.

It was Moved by: Trustee Jakubiec

Supported by: Trustee Gafa

THAT the Board accept the gift from John and Lisa Gandelot and the Dryer Foundation for additional FAST Reading funds.

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

Nays: None

Absent: Trustees Minturn and Pangborn

Motion carried by a 5 – 0 vote.

Mr. Bury also noted many venues in which funds can be donated to the Foundation. One of those ways, he announced, is that the Grosse Pointe Foundation for Public Education has established a Suzanne Klein Fund in which Dr. Klein will be actively involved in directing the use of the funds collected.

B. Approval of Human Resources Report for December, 2011

The Human Resources Report contained the appointment of one classroom assistant position and the resignation of one plant employee. Dr. Harwood also noted the death of Rebecca Herd, social studies teacher, who worked with students for fourteen years in the Grosse Pointe Schools. All appointments are replacements or otherwise within the 2011-12 budget allocations unless noted.

It was Moved by: Trustee Walsh

Supported by: Trustee Jakubiec

THAT the Board approves the Human Resources Report for December, 2011 as presented.

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

Nays: None

Absent: Trustees Minturn and Pangborn

Motion carried by a 5 – 0 vote.

C. Approval of the Work Session and Regular Meeting Minutes of November 28, 2011

The Board was asked to approve the minutes of the Work Session and Regular Meeting of November 28, 2011 as presented.

It was Moved by: Trustee Walsh

Supported by: Trustee Dindoffer

THAT the Board approve the minutes of the Work Session and Regular Meeting of November 28, 2011 as presented.

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

Nays: None

Absent: Trustees Minturn and Pangborn

Motion carried by a 5 – 0 vote.

D. Approval of Policies

1. Bylaw 0167.1, Voting

This revision reflects the impact of an abstention on the outcome of a board vote. While not required, the Policy Committee is recommending its adoption.

2. Policy 1241, Non-Reemployment of the Superintendent

This revision reflects the time parameter specified in statute for non-reemployment of the superintendent.

3. Policy 1420, School Administrator Evaluation (New)

Annual school administration evaluation is now a requirement and this revision reflects the requirements of current law.

4. Policy 2340, Field and Other District-Sponsored Trips

This revision allows approval of field and other district-sponsored trips to Canada under normal conditions, when no travel alert has been issued by the federal government, without additional approval of the Board.

5. Policy 8540, Vending Machines

Language has been added to meet the requirements of federal legislation (Health and Hunger-Free Kids Act).

It was Moved by: Trustee Walsh

Supported by: Trustee Dindoffer

THAT the Board approve all of the revised policies and the bylaw as presented.

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

Nays: None

Absent: Trustees Minturn and Pangborn

Motion carried by a 5 – 0 vote.

E. Approval of New Pilot Course: Strategies for Reading and Writing

The Board previewed a course entitled “Strategies for Reading and Writing”. This course is designed to help students entering freshman year with a two-year deficit in reading and writing competence. The pilot course will be available to students at South High School pending board approval.

It was Moved by: Trustee Walsh
Supported by: Trustee Gafa

THAT the Board approve the New Pilot Course: Strategies for Reading and Writing.

Ayes: Trustees Dindoffer, Gafa, Jakubiec, Steininger and Walsh
Nays: None

Absent: Trustees Minturn and Pangborn

Motion carried by a 5– 0 vote.

F. Approval of District Goals

Developing goals focuses the district on the most important issues to improve the quality of education for students in our schools. The district has established goals through the Strategic Plan, the school improvement and the accreditation processes, the initiatives of the Education Programs Leadership Council (EPLC), and partnerships with parents and community members.

Board Policy 1110 indicates that the Board of Education shall provide time to assess the progress of the district and set goals for each school year. The district's Annual Report, required by Public Act 25 was given on September 26, 2011 and provided data on various measures of student achievement from the past school year and also set the stage for the development of district goals and school level improvement goals for 2011-12. School Improvement Plans were approved by the Board of Education at their October 24, 2011 meeting.

District goals for 2011-2012 are those identified by the Board of Education in the revised Strategic Plan which was updated with the facilitation of Banach and Banach. The Board has also developed updated mission, vision and belief statements in that planning process.

At the Board's work session on November 28, 2011 a draft of goals prepared by the administration were reviewed and discussed. The goals proposed include:

- To create an environment where everyone is learning
- To ensure a preferred future for the Grosse Pointe Public School System and its graduates by using bold, data-driven planning
- To create positive perceptions and behaviors through effective communication.

Following Board approval of these goals, the administration will further develop specific measures, budget and staffing needs for each objective as well as develop a marketing brochure which will all be discussed and shared with the Board of Education at a work session on January 23, 2012.

Accomplishing these goals will require the best efforts of all stakeholders to fulfill the vision and mission of the Strategic Plan for our students and community. Regularly scheduled reviews will ensure that these goals are met and the district continues to respond to the opportunities and challenges presented.

Moved by: Trustee Dindoffer
Supported by: Trustee Steininger

THAT the Board approve the District Goals for the 2011-12 school year as presented.

Trustee Walsh said he does not feel that these goals provide a strong enough foundation for the Board to make a concerted measurable effort toward a continuous improvement methodology and will be voting against the District Goals as presented.

	<p>Trustee Jakubiec responded to the discussion on the impact of the uncapping of charter schools by saying the uncapping of the charter schools is better for our district than forcing us open with schools of choice legislation. He also commented that he thought there was room for improvement on the district goals and objectives that were to be voted on and that the district needs a good strategic plan. He knows that there are many areas we can move forward quickly in to make improvements and that this district is moving forward and is focused on the entire learning experience for the students.</p> <p>Trustee Gafa said that, she too, would be voting against the goals as presented noting that she feels they are too generic. She would like the District Goals to be more suited to the students of this district and the schools of the Grosse Pointe School System and more specific in nature.</p> <p>Trustee Dindoffer said that the goals for the district are being presented this evening with the next steps being to provide action steps that support those goals. The district needs goals for the district and the community with a multi-year horizon so that the direction in which it is moving and what data is meaningful will help guide as the district prosecutes those goals. The goals are general because that is the direction the district is moving in and the action steps to follow will give the specificity needed towards those goals. She will be supporting these goals.</p> <p>In a roll call vote, Trustee Jakubiec, no Trustee Gafa, no Trustee Walsh, no Trustee Dindoffer, yes Trustee Steininger, yes</p> <p>Absent: Trustees Minturn and Pangborn Motion failed by a 3 – 2 vote.</p> <p>G. Approval of Retirement Resolution for Dr. Klein</p> <p>President Steininger read a resolution to honor Dr. Suzanne Klein for her forty-one years of service to the students and citizens of Grosse Pointe. The resolution shared Dr. Klein's employment history in the district as well as the many community partnerships she established. To honor her, the Board established the C. Suzanne Klein Leadership Award as part of the Distinguished Employee Recognition Program as an expression of appreciation for her dedicated leadership throughout her tenure as a Grosse Pointe Public School System employee.</p> <p>Moved by: Trustee Dindoffer Supported by: Trustee Walsh</p> <p>THAT the Board approve the Retirement Resolution for Dr. C. Suzanne Klein and adopt the C. Suzanne Klein Leadership Award as part of the Distinguished Employee Recognition Program.</p> <p>Ayes: Trustees Dindoffer, Gafa, Jakubiec, Steininger and Walsh Nays: None Absent: Trustees Minturn and Pangborn Motion carried by a 5– 0 vote.</p>
ACTION ITEMS FOR JANUARY 23, 2012	<p>A. Organizational Items</p> <p>1. Administration of Oath of Office of Newly Elected Trustees The Board election held on November 8, 2011 resulted in the election of Lois Valente and Daniel Roeske to four-year terms. Both will begin their terms on January 1, 2012 and take the oath of office at the Board's meeting on Monday, January 23, 2012.</p>

2. Election of Officers

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 2012 vice-president. Elections for the positions of secretary and treasurer are then conducted before proceeding with the remainder of the agenda.

3. Approval of Resolution of 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 2012. The Board is asked to adopt the resolution provided pertaining to the continuance of funds and accounts and signatories on accounts.

4. Approval of Appointment of Christian Fenton, Isha Smith and Carolyn Kurtz as Representatives to MAISL for Property/Liability Insurance Underwriter

The Grosse Pointe Public School System is a member of the Metropolitan Association for Improved School 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.

M.A.I.S.L. is a trust voluntarily established by contracting schools 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 our 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 and Carolyn Kurtz as an alternate director.

That the Board reappoints Christian A. Fenton as director and Isha Smith and Carolyn Kurtz as the alternate directors to the M.A.I.S.L. Joint Risk Management Trust Board for 2012.

5. Approval of Regular Board Meeting Calendar for 2012

Per Board Bylaw 0154, the Board of Education approves their meeting calendar for the following year at their annual organizational meeting in January. The proposed meeting schedule for the 2012 calendar year for regular meetings of the Board of Education will be provided to the Board for review and discussion.

With this pattern, board meetings from January through June, 2012 would be held in the Library at Grosse Pointe South High School, 11 Grosse Pointe Boulevard. Meetings would then move to the North High School Library, 707 Vernier, Grosse Pointe Woods, as of July, 2012 through December, 2012.

The Board was asked to review the proposed Calendar of Board Meetings for 2012 so that they may advise the administration of any changes in dates or locations they wish to make. A Board vote for approval would be scheduled in January, 2012 as Board policy directs.

B. Approval of Human Resources Report for January, 2012

This information will be available to the Board prior to the January, 2012 meeting.

C. Approval of Minutes for December 19, 2011

Minutes of the December 19, 2011 Regular Meeting will be available prior to the next regular meeting.

D. Approval of G.A.A.A. #2

Mr. Fenton noted that there will be a General Appropriations Amendment Act #2 presented at the January 23, 2012 meeting.

E. Approval of Updated Secondary Art Curriculum

The state has made significant changes to art content standards since the district's last review in the late 1990's, and the 6-12 Art Department has added six new courses as well. There has also been a philosophical shift in how the curriculum should be addressed and used for instruction since the last review. The 6-12 Visual Arts Curriculum Committee has sought to further develop the curricular structure in order to emphasize the connectivity between curriculum, instruction, and content standards that have been mandated by the state to be an active part of the working curriculum.

The art committee believes in the four components of DBAE: art production, art aesthetics, art criticism, and art history. The significant changes to the curriculum at the state level demand a change to this format. This will be evident in the revised curriculum with a more comprehensive and purposeful use of the four components blending the curriculum with state mandated content standards. In addition, there are also different strands that each high school course incorporates, that respond to the Michigan visual, performing, and applied arts credit guidelines. Both middle and high school courses have been revised to include production and aesthetic questioning inherent in the Art instruction and curriculum.

Since the last curriculum review there have been numerous changes to the 6-8 Art Program in Grosse Pointe, some based upon structural changes to the middle school day. Prerequisites for more advanced art courses have been dropped, and a significant change to what is taught at the sixth grade level has taken place as well. Within this more limited framework, the integrity and high expectations for the students and the art content has been maintained. In keeping up with the times and looking to the future, the middle school has added a Graphic Design course.

The high school Art Program has seen the most changes with the addition of six new courses since the last formal and comprehensive 6-12 curriculum review. Art Now was added as there was a need to have a "beginner's" art course for upperclassman to participate in, so that particular level of student would be with other students more in keeping with his or her age group, and maturity level. Four AP art courses have also been added since the last formal 6-12 Art curriculum review: AP Studio Art-Drawing, AP 2D Design Photography, AP 2D Communication Design, and AP 3D Design. These courses are geared for high achieving Grosse Pointe students, who through these courses may be able to test out of college art courses with an AP portfolio, vs. an AP exam.

E. Approval of Bids

1. Richard Stair Windows

On December 8, 2011, bids were opened for removal of existing wood windows and installation of eight new aluminum clad wood windows at Richard Elementary School stairwells. Nine companies attended the mandatory pre-bid meeting and three submitted bids. Bid evaluations are

	<p>in the selection process at this time.</p> <p>2. Trombly Attic/Stair Windows On December 8, 2011, bids were opened for removal of existing wood windows, relocation of existing power, cable, telephone, etc. wiring and installation of twenty-four new aluminum clad wood windows on the third floor and stairwells at Trombly Elementary School. Nine companies attended the mandatory pre-bid meeting and three submitted bids. The project is being funded from the sinking fund and the recommendation is to award the bid to IXL Glass Company for \$26,400.</p>
INFORMATION AND DISCUSSION	<p>A. Declaration of Candidacy for 2012 Board Officers</p> <p>President Steininger asked Board members to declare their interest in a particular Board office. Trustee Jakubiec commented that he believed we are well positioned as a Board for next year. He hopes Vice President Dindoffer, who has been Vice President the last two years, will accept the position of Board President and commented that Brendan and Judy did well in their roles as officers on the Board. He is willing to do whatever the Board might need him to do, but would prefer to remain a Trustee at this time. Trustees Gafa and Walsh said that they would be willing to serve in whatever capacity fellow Board members might elect them to. Trustee Dindoffer also declared that she would be willing to serve in any capacity fellow Board members might elect her to but would also be interested in serving in the President's position. Trustee Pangborn was absent and will be asked in January. President Steininger then asked future Trustees Valente and Roeske who replied that they would be available to serve in any capacity fellow Board members might choose.</p> <p>B. Monthly Financial Report</p> <p>Mr. Fenton noted that the financial report provided reflects the actual budget numbers. The encumbrances are where he thought they would be at this time and matches the Budget Model Utility.</p> <p>C. Health Care Report</p> <p>Mr. Harwood noted that two reports were distributed to Board members up to and including the month of October. Medical in prescriptions costs increased during the month of September, 2011. In October, that total went back down to previous months' calculation. Totals are also in line with what is reflected in the BMU Report.</p> <p>D. Wellness Policy Update</p> <p>As part of Policy 8510, the administration works to provide opportunities that improve the health and well-being of district staff. The wellness policy also includes initiatives for student wellness and better health.</p> <p>E. Enrollment Update and Projections</p> <p>Mr. Fenton noted an initial enrollment summary of elementary, middle, high school and special education students for a first initial projection for the 2012-13 school year. That best estimate is 8,426 students. He provided a break of students by school and by grade to the Board of Education.</p> <p>F. Plans for Developing Budget Parameters and Resolution for Budget Development for 2012-13</p> <p>Dr. Harwood shared information from the revenue consensus at the state level noting that</p>

	<p>revenue coming into the State of Michigan is now estimated to be much higher than what had originally been thought. A revenue increase of about \$500 million into the State of Michigan is what is being anticipated giving the School Aid Fund an increase of about \$260 million and an increase of \$240 million to the general aid fund. Mr. Walsh presented, at the last Board meeting, the retirement rates to districts noting that that rate is expected to go up 3% for next year. Dr. Harwood noted that Mr. Fenton, Mr. Walsh and he will be working closely with union groups regarding the contract changes that may occur due to the increases in benefits and retirement costs.</p> <p>G. Appointment of Assistant Superintendent of Human Resources</p> <p>Dr. Harwood noted that the position of Assistant Superintendent of Human Resources has been posted and fifty-seven prospects have applied for the position which closed on December 2, 2011. Of that fifty-seven applicants, it has been determined that eleven individuals will be interviewed after which time a selection will be made and identified pending a reference check for presentation to the Board at the January 23, 2012 meeting.</p>
FUTURE MEETINGS	President Steininger announced there will be a Work Session at 6:30 p.m. and a Regular Meeting of the Board at 8 p.m. on Monday, January 23, 2011 in the South Wicking Library.
PUBLIC COMMENTS ON NON-ACTION ITEMS	Mr. Robert Burns, Grosse Pointe Farms, spoke about grade and report card concerns for his son.
OTHER COMMENTS FROM BOARD AND SUPERINTENDENT	<p>As Grosse Pointe Public School staff and community members share in expressing best wishes to Dr. Suzanne Klein upon her retirement, Central Office administrators each spoke about their own personal experiences working with Dr. Klein. They thanked her for her leadership, commitment to excellence and years of service as they wished her well in future endeavors.</p> <p>Board members thanked John Steininger for his service on the Board. They congratulated the student scholars Journalism students, Thespian Festival winners and Gary Abud, Michigan 2012 Teacher of Promise.</p> <p>Board members shared their highlights of Dr. Klein's achievements while congratulating her on a "job well done." They noted her many successes and dedication to providing a quality school experience for all students. They added that her commitment and service to the school district and community are unequalled. Dr. Klein is the district's first woman Superintendent and the longest serving of all superintendents before her.</p>
ADJOURNMENT	There being no further business, President Steininger adjourned the meeting at 10: 36 p.m.

Board Secretary