



Next Meetings:

There will be a work session at 7 p.m., **February 13**, in the **North** High School Library, 707 Vernier. The next regular meeting is 7 p.m., **Monday, February 27**, in the **North** High School Library. Board meetings will stay at North through June 2012, then move to Brownell for July and August.

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.

You can now watch the school board meetings via www.gppsstv.phanfare.com on Comcast channel 20/902 and AT&T channel 99, or listen to the podcast on the district website.

Mark Your Calendar:

- Tri-M concert, 7 p.m., 2/1, South auditorium
- Full Circle Bridal Bash, 2/4, War Memorial

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Board Briefs

January 2012

New Board members sworn in and officers approved

As part of the annual organizational meeting of the Board of Education, new Board members Lois Valente and Daniel Roeske were sworn in by Judge Chylinski. Officers were elected to the following positions: President Judy Gafa, Vice President Lois Valente, Secretary Dan Roeske, and Treasurer Brendan Walsh. The Board then shared their compensation preference as follows: Jakubiec, Pangborn and Valente chose to receive their compensation and direct it where they so desire; Dindoffer chose to not accept compensation; Walsh directed his to the South Latin Club; and Gafa and Roeske to The Family Center. Board members are entitled to \$30 per public meeting. Superintendent Harwood also noted that January is School Board Recognition Month and presented each trustee with a bowl and a copy of A Day in the Life of GPPSS, produced in partnership with the Grosse Pointe Foundation for Public Education.

Also part of the organizational items, the Board approved 7-0 the designation of signatories on accounts, and appointment of Christian Fenton as MAISL representative, and Isha Smith and Carolyn Kurtz alternates for that property/liability insurance pool.

Then the Board approved the calendar for the 2012 Board regular meetings, at an earlier time of 7 p.m., typically the fourth Monday of the month. Work sessions will typically be held at 7 p.m. the third Monday each month as deemed necessary by the President and Superintendent.

Jon Dean named new Assistant Superintendent

During the Human Resources report, the Board enthusiastically supported 7-0 appointment of M. Jon Dean as Assistant Superintendent of Human Services and Educational Development. He will join the district team in mid-February.

January action items approved unanimously

The updated secondary art curriculum was approved unanimously, as were the December minutes as amended, the Trombly Attic and Stair Window bid for \$26,400 to IXL Glass, and the budget amendment (GAAA#2). Highlights of the budget amendment include transferring Kids Club, Camp O'Fun, Preschool, Safety Town and the aquatics classes from the general to the school service fund per the auditor's recommendation. Adjustments were also made for the reduction in Title I, II, III and Drug Free Schools grants. Fund Equity will remain at \$13,844,148. A bid for the Richard stair windows was rejected as requested by the administration, and the project will be reviewed again next year.

February Action items include bids, testing contracts and goals

In February the Board will vote on the NWEA contract for computerized testing used with students in grades K-9. The per pupil cost remains at \$12.50 for a total of \$71,462.50. Bids for phase II of restroom projects at Defer, Trombly and South, as well as South main gymnasium mechanical room upgrades will be voted upon. Pre-bid meetings on these projects are underway, but no bids have come in yet. The Board will also vote upon policy revisions regarding school board elections. With the new State law, school board elections must occur the first Tuesday after the first Monday in November in even numbered years. While our elections were already moved to November to reduce costs, elections were still taking place in odd numbered years. This will impact terms for trustees Dindoffer, Jakubiec, Roeske and Valente and if the policy revision passes, an additional year will be added to their terms.