



Grosse Pointe Board of Education
Minutes of the Work Session of May 23, 2011
South High School, Wicking Library
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 6:00 p.m.</p> <p>Board members present: Trustees Dindoffer, Gafa, Jakubiec, Minturn, Pangborn, Steininger and Walsh</p> <p>Absent: None</p> <p>Also Present: Superintendent Klein; Assistant Superintendents Beels, Fenton and Harwood; and Executive Director Warras; Mr. Roger Garvelink and Mr. James Morse, Hazard, Young and Associates</p>
<p>SUPERINTENDENT SEARCH UPDATE FROM HAZARD, YOUNG, ATTEA AND ASSOCIATES</p>	<p>Mr. Garavalink said that their website provided helpful information for those interested in viewing the schedule of meetings and selection plan.</p> <p>Mr. Morse said that Grosse Pointe's survey results were one of the highest they have seen in a community. He noted that 708 residents filled out the survey with 205 being parents of a student in the district. There were also a good number of participants in the focus groups with at least 14 teachers interviewing face to face. They reminded the community of the online survey available for all residents to participate in.</p>
<p>REVIEW OF CENTRAL OFFICE BUDGET RECOMMENDATIONS</p>	<p>Mr. Fenton shared estimated actual budgets for each central office department including: Curriculum, Instruction Assessment and Technology; Attendance; Business and Support Services; Human Resources; Superintendent's Office and Board of Education. He also incorporated financial information on the Performing Arts Department, Community Swim Program, Kids Club Program, Preschool, and other business services such as Employee Assistance Program, Interest on Short Term Loan, Workers Compensation and Unemployment.</p> <p>Mr. Fenton discussed the summary of sources and uses for the Sinking Fund that included property taxes and interest income, capital outlay and beginning and ending fund equity. He addressed sources and uses for the Capital Projects Fund as well as the Debt Retirement Fund.</p> <p>Mr. Fenton concluded with additional financial information on an overlap of salary for the Superintendent's budget for five months due to the hiring of a new superintendent in early fall. The kindergarten enrollment is currently at 300 students.</p> <p>All materials corresponding to the information presented is posted on the district website.</p>
<p>REVIEW OF STUDENT SERVICES/SPECIAL EDUCATION BUDGET RECOMMENDATIONS</p>	<p>Monique Beels and Deborah Jackson responded to inquires about the services for students with special needs. Information addressed inclusion, Positive Behavior Interventions and Supports, Response to Intervention and personal curriculum opportunities for students.</p> <p>The Student Services/Special Education budget included 193.6 staff for the 2011-2012 school year including: 29.4 teachers; 21.3 classroom assistants; 3.0 Transition Specialists; 1.0 Behavior Specialist; 1.0 Program Specialist; 17.6 Speech Pathologists; 11.4 Psychologists; 10.5 School Social Workers; and 9.1 other additional staff. Of the staff listed, 16.6 are paid with Federal Revenues, 94.0 through County PA19 funds, and 85.4 from the local, general fund.</p>

TECHNOLOGY PLAN UPDATE AND RECOMMENDATIONS

Mr. Warras and Mr. Woloszyn provided information on the proposed revisions to and recommendations for the district's technology plan for 2011-2014.

There are two technology items that Board members will be asked to consider in the coming weeks. Under separate cover a draft of a technology budget for 2011-12 will be presented which lists proposed maintenance and capital outlay expenditures for the coming year. The other technology matter that requires Board action is the 2011-14 Technology Plan, a draft of which was included in the information given to the Board and is also available on the district website, www.gpschools.org.

Every three years the State of Michigan requires school districts to prepare an extensive report that addresses many different facets of the technology program in the district. This requirement is a prerequisite for eligibility in the federal e-rate program. Through the e-rate program the district receives a 42% reimbursement of certain telecommunication costs, totaling approximately \$144,000 for the current year.

A review of the Technology Plan provides detail about current technology capabilities and practices in the district. In addition to demographic information about the district, the State requires the district to address:

- Curriculum Integration with Technology: district goals and strategies, aligned with state and national standards, for using telecommunications and technology to improve teaching and learning.
- Student Achievement: strategies that are based on research and that integrate technology into curriculum and instruction.
- Technology Delivery: strategies for the delivery of specialized or rigorous courses through the use of technology.
- Parental Communications and Community Relations: strategies to promote parental involvement and to increase communication with parents and community.
- Professional Development: strategies for providing ongoing, sustained professional development for certified staff.
- Supporting Resources: resources such as services, software, other electronically delivered learning materials and print resources that are acquired to ensure successful and effective uses of technology.
- Infrastructure: telecommunication services, hardware, software and other services available to improve teaching and learning.
- Access to Technology: addresses the availability of technology for all students and teachers.
- Budget: a tentative timeline and budget related to the use of technology to improve student academic achievement.
- Coordination of Resources: how the district coordinates state and local resources to implement activities prescribed in the technology plan.
- Acceptable Use Policy: practices the district employs to monitor the Acceptable Use Policy for students and staff use of the technologies.

The Technology Plan 2011-14 was reviewed by the district's e-rate consultant, Robert Rice, and found to be in compliance with state guidelines. It should be noted that approving the plan is not an approval of individual elements of the plan. Any future action on specific parts contained in the Technology Plan 2011-14, such as budget items, will require separate Board action.

While the Technology Plan is an important document, it is more a description of the

	<p>current status of technology use in the district than a vision of future use and needs. Creating a document that clearly lays out a plan for the future is important. Already addressing that need is a committee comprised of teachers, parents and administrators presently at work creating such a vision.</p> <p>A report will be given to the Board on those recommendations in the coming months, referred to as Tech Plan Plus, for using technology to improve teaching, learning and business operations, the infrastructure, hardware and software required, training, and ways in which both the community and businesses can support the plan.</p> <p>The meeting adjourned at 7:02 p.m. to recognize the Pierce students in the audience who received awards for Quiz Bowl and Michigan Social Studies Olympiad Gold Medal Winners.</p> <p>The meeting reconvened at 7:15.</p>
REVIEW OF ELEMENTARY SCHEDULING STUDY REPORT	<p>Mr. Warras shared a summary of the work of the Elementary Scheduling Committee.</p> <p>The Elementary Scheduling Committee is comprised of 25 teachers, administrators and parents representing every elementary school, every special subject, most support categories and almost every elementary grade. The work of the committee was to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Review the selection of non-core “special subjects” and make recommendations for modification, if appropriate - Review current scheduling practices in the elementary program to ensure that the amount of time students are in school is used to best advantage - Address several major, recurring scheduling issues. <p>The committee held two public forums and recommending the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Maintain the current four day block rotation, which provides an every fourth day schedule for special subject classes. - Maintain the current offerings of art, general music, and physical education in all grades in the block rotation with the current time allotment (45 minutes per class). - Include library skills in grades K-2 in the block rotation. - In grades 3 – 5 include foreign language (Spanish) in the block rotation. - In grades 3 – 5 schedule library outside the block rotation. - Maintain the current instrumental music schedule in grade 5 of two 45-minutes periods per week with individual sections for brass, woodwinds and strings. - Maintain the current recess schedule of 20 minutes daily in every grade. <p>The committee took a strong position on the inclusion of library skills in the upper grades with a flexible schedule outside of the block rotation.</p> <p>The cost to these improvements is an additional 2.2 FTE in the elementary program (1.5 FTE Spanish; .7 FTE library skills). The recommended changes also result in a much more efficient schedule of special subject classes with less travel time.</p>
PUBLIC COMMENTS	There were no public comments at this time.
ADJOURNMENT	President Steininger adjourned the meeting at 7:59 p.m.

Board Secretary