



**Grosse Pointe Board of Education**  
**Minutes of the Regular Meeting of June 22, 2009**  
Library, Grosse Pointe North High School  
707 Vernier, Grosse Pointe Woods, MI 48236

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| <p><b>MEETING MINUTES</b></p> <p><b>CALL TO ORDER</b></p> | <p>President Kosinski called the meeting to order at 8: 06p.m.</p> <p>The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Trustee Ismail.</p> <p><b>Board members present:</b> Trustees Dindoffer, Gafa, Ismail, Kosinski, Steininger and Walsh</p> <p><b>Absent:</b> Trustee Minturn</p> <p><b>Also Present:</b> Superintendent Klein, Assistant Superintendents Allan, Fenton and Harwood, Executive Director Warras</p>   |
| <p><b>SUPERINTENDENT REPORT AND RECOGNITIONS</b></p>      | <p><b>A. District Recognition from Michigan Schools Business Officials</b></p> <p>In late spring the district received a special award from the Michigan School Business Officials, the Meridian Award for Excellence. Mr. Scott Little from the MSBO presented the award for the “Ready, Set, Go Energy Management Program”. Mr. Christian Fenton and Mrs. Rebecca Fannon were recognized for not only for saving the district’s dollars, but for instilling an awareness of the need to conserve energy in the environment. A scholarship check in the amount of \$1,000 was also presented to Dr. Klein for the district. Dr. Klein also acknowledged the work of Rich VanGorder on the district’s Energy Committee.</p> <p><b>B. Student Recognition – Jessica Dawson</b></p> <p>The Langenschedit Award is given to one student from Michigan for exemplary scholarship in German. To qualify, students must first score in the 90<sup>th</sup> percentile or higher on the National German Exam, and be interviewed. Jessica’s accomplishment is particularly significant since she is only in her second year of German.</p> <p><b>C. Recognition of Special Education Team from Pierce</b></p> <p>Dr. Klein recognized Mrs. Ann Marie Bokatzian, Teacher of the Autistic Impaired, who was recently honored by WCRESA for enhancing the lives of students in the special education community.</p> <p>On May 27, 2009, the Wayne County Parent Advisory Committee held a special recognition reception recognizing the Pierce Middle School staff for their teamwork and their dedication to the district’s special education students. Due to the efforts of this team, students are able to seamlessly join in with the rest of the Pierce student body for academic, athletic and social events. Dr. Klein recognized and congratulated team members: Sue Banner, Program Supervisor; Judy Ignagni, school psychologist; Brad Richards, teacher of the Emotionally Impaired; Joseph Finazzo, teacher of the Autistic</p> |

Impaired; Susan Lauppe, classroom assistant; and Steven Ignagni. Dr. Klein also recognized Rose Mendola for her support of the district's special education programs and services.

**D. Preschool Program at Barnes Early Childhood Center for Fall, 2009**

Dr. Klein announced that the district has been looking at ways to support and prepare students to begin school as part of the study of district programs and services. Early childhood services have also been studied carefully. The administration is recommending opening a preschool program for the 2009-2010 school year at Barnes Early Childhood Center which will provide beginners child care in September. More information is available on the district website.

**E. Math Update – NWEA Results**

Dr. Allan noted that the district uses two assessment measures (one local and one national) that are not included on the district academic benchmarking report: NWEA, a nationally normed assessment program in reading and math, and a 5<sup>th</sup> grade advanced math test that measures 6<sup>th</sup> grade math and helps predict success in the middle school courses.

The NWEA measures the amount of growth that would be expected at each grade level for students in that grade. She said she is excited to report that every grade level hit its expected gain for the year, but the elementary level gain is as high as 166% with 159% gain for 5<sup>th</sup> graders, and 152% gain for fourth graders. She said that these gains are a very encouraging measure of the district's new Everyday Mathematics Program, as a one hour a day minimum in math instruction and extensive staff development for teachers.

Middle schools are examining 6<sup>th</sup> grade honors math enrollment for next year with an eye to expanding the number of sections as more students are qualifying for honors math and the honors level of the science course (conceptual physics) in 8<sup>th</sup> grade. The honors level incorporates some high school content expectations.

**F. 2009-2010 School Year in Review**

Dr. Klein provided a review of the district goals and priorities for the year.

**PUBLIC HEARING  
ON 2009-10  
SCHOOL BUDGET**

According to State law the Board of Education is required to hold a Public Hearing before the adoption of the 2009-10 Budget. Also in accordance with State law, the required Public Notice was published in the Grosse Pointe News on June 11, 2009.

President Kosinski acknowledged the accomplishments of the staff and students in the schools as well as the wise stewardship of the district's administrators. Mrs. Kosinski also applauded the passion of the community for continued educational excellence. She added that the Board will not allow the excellence of offerings to be diminished by adverse circumstances, while

continuing to emphasize the skills needed to learn and lead.

Mr. Harwood spoke about the staffing projections for the 2009-2010 school year based on projected enrollment.

Mr. Fenton discussed enrollment projections noting that the district anticipates a reduction in enrollment in elementary, middle and high school levels. Districts are funded based on blended general education student enrollment. As enrollment declines, so does district revenue and Hold Harmless millage rates. The blended enrollment for next year is 8,172 students. Mr. Fenton then explained the changes in Homestead and Non-Homestead taxable value, which overall is down 5%.

Mr. Fenton then spoke about employee benefits and salaries which are the majority of the district's expenditures at 84.8% of the budget.

Trustee Walsh presented information on the budget highlighting how schools are funded under Proposal A and some of the factors that contribute to the public school financing challenge. He made note of the blended general education student enrollment and explained the Hold Harmless millage. He added that school districts are responsible for their employees' health care costs. The state, however, also controls the retiree pension and health care system (MPERS), funded mainly by local districts as a percentage of salaries.

Trustee Walsh continued that as the enrollment declines, revenue declines. He also noted that compensation systems are based on longevity and advanced coursework and that salaries rise as provided in contract renewals. MPERS rates also increase and have a compounding impact in relation to increasing salary costs. State funding is not keeping pace with these cost increases.

Mr. Walsh then addressed the budget sources of revenue and expenditures per pupil for the 2009-2010 budget as well as comparisons of employee to student ratios for this year and next. He also noted that 2008-09 had 961 employees compared to 908 planned for the 2009-10 school year.

Trustee Walsh concluded that the financial forecast is likely to get worse before it gets better. Tough choices will need to be made in the context of available options while the long-term solution lies in Lansing.

Mr. Fenton commented that with the submission of the budget, a general fund and service fund is also being submitted. Four taxes are being levied: Hold Harmless; Non-Homestead tax; Debt Fund tax; and Sinking Fund tax. Overall, there is a reduction in taxes for the local taxpayer of just under \$399,000. The Hold Harmless tax is going down due to the enrollment decrease. The Sinking Fund tax is going because of the decrease in taxable value. The Non-Homestead tax is going up slightly due to the levy of 18 mills on the taxable amount. The Debt Fund tax is going up \$100,000 as that is an unlimited tax bond issue which pays principal and interest.

|  |  |
|--|--|
|  | <p>Public Comments on the School Budget:</p> <p>Mr. Jakubiec, Grosse Pointe Woods, commented about the proposed budget encouraging the Board not to pass the budget as presented. He also asked for information about the preschool program for the fall.</p> <p>Laura Bartell, shared her thoughts on the budget allocation for the North choir program and asked that North provide more music offerings.</p> <p>Mary Trost, Grosse Pointe Park, commented on the difficulty of the budgeting process and asked the Board to return to the basics and emphasize instructive instead of extra curricular activities.</p>  |
| <p><b>PUBLIC HEARING ON SCHOOL BREAKFAST PROGRAM</b></p> | <p>Public Act 335 of 1993 (Reference 380.1272a) requires all K-12 districts to provide breakfast for full-time students, except if the number of free/reduced lunches in the previous year was 20% or less in any one of the school buildings in the district.</p> <p>The administration plans to recommend that the school system not operate such a breakfast program in any of its school buildings except at Poupard Elementary where the free and reduced lunch is 34.8%. The highest participation level in any one of the other buildings is 17% and local tax dollars would be needed to supplement state reimbursement or lunch prices would need to increase to offset the cost. Before acting on the resolution in this matter, the board is required to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Conduct an annual public hearing</li> <li>2. Provide notification to parents</li> <li>3. Publish a justification</li> </ol> <p>Public Notice was published in the Grosse Pointe News on June 11, 2009. The Board of Education is now setting aside time for a public hearing on the issue. Pending the public hearing, the Board will be asked to act on a resolution at the Regular meeting in July, 2009.</p> |
| <p><b>PUBLIC COMMENTS ON ACTION ITEMS</b></p>            | <p>No one came forward to comment.</p>   |
| <p><b>ACTION ITEMS FOR JUNE 22, 2009</b></p>             | <p><b>A. Approval of Gift from GPFPE</b></p> <p>The Grosse Pointe Foundation for Public Education is meeting to review grant requests and will present those receiving approval at a subsequent meeting.</p> <p><b>B. Approval of Gift from South High School Golf Supporters</b></p> <p>On April 27, 2009 the administration recommended to the Board of Education</p>  |

that the Gift from the Friends of the Grosse Pointe South Golf be tabled until May 18, 2009 because additional information was needed.

The administration was approached by a group of parents, headed by Mrs. Mickey Shield, (Friends of Grosse Pointe South Golf) to donate funds for an indoor golf practice facility.

They would like to donate various items of equipment for a practice driving and putting range. The total donation would be approximately \$15,500, depending on the final cost of the equipment. This facility would be used by the girls' and boys' golf teams for off season practice.

The administration contribution to this is minimal and includes raising the lights, installing some new doors and a small caged area to store clubs and other equipment. The goal would be that this facility be ready for use in the fall of 2009.

A list of the equipment, as well as the layout plan for this gift, was provided to the Board.

**It was Moved by:** Trustee Walsh

**Supported by:** Trustee Gafa

**THAT the Board accept the gift from the Friends of South High School golf.**

**Ayes:** Trustees Dindoffer, Gafa, Kosinski, Ismail, Steininger and Walsh

**Nays:** None

**Absent:** Trustee Minturn

**Motion carried by a 6 – 0 vote.**

#### **C. Approval of Human Resources Report for May, 2009**

The Human Resources Report for May, 2009 contained the retirements of two instructional staff and two plant or custodial staff members.

**Moved by:** Trustee Walsh

**Supported by:** Trustee Ismail

**THAT the Human Resources Report for May, 2009 be approved as presented.**

**Ayes:** Trustees Dindoffer, Gafa, Ismail, Kosinski, Steininger and Walsh

**Nays:** None

**Absent:** Trustee Minturn

**Motion carried by a 6 – 0 vote.**

#### **D. Approval of Closed Session Minutes of May 4, 2009 and Work Session and Regular Meeting Minutes of May 18, 2009**

**It was moved by:** Trustee Steininger

**Supported by:** Trustee Walsh

**THAT the Board approve the closed session minutes of May 4, 2009 and the work session and regular meeting minutes of May 18, 2009.**

**Ayes:** Trustees Dindoffer, Gafa, Ismail, Kosinski, Steininger and Walsh  
**Nays:** None **Absent:** Trustee Minturn  
**Motion carried by a 6 – 0 vote.**

**E. Approval of 2009-2010 School Year Budget**

A preview of the budget during the Public Hearing explained in detail the direction of the Board for the 2009-2010 school year.

The following are some of those budget highlights:

1. Decrease of 187 “blended” state aide reimbursable students.
2. Total staff decrease of 54.1 (FTE) positions.
3. Decrease of 37.5 teachers.
4. \$10,184 per pupil in State Foundation Allowance.
5. Retirement rate increase from 16.54% of 16.94%.
6. Fund Equity is anticipated to stay the same at \$19.6 million.
7. Taxable Value decrease of 5.0%.
8. Blended enrollment of 8,172.
9. Overall tax decrease of \$398,660.

In compliance with Public Act 621, the proposed 2009-2010 General Appropriations Act is submitted for adoption. The budget is listed in the format designated by the State of Michigan. Total budget expenditures including interfund transfers for the 2009-2010 fiscal year are as follows:

|                      | <u>Gross</u>  | <u>Net</u>    |
|----------------------|---------------|---------------|
| General Fund         | \$102,185,448 | \$100,560,448 |
| School Service Fund  | 2,616,670     | 2,616,670     |
| Debt Fund            | 4,944,476     | 4,944,476     |
| Capital Project Fund | 10,343,000    | 10,343,000    |
| Sinking Fund         | 3,200,000     | 3,200,000     |
| Grand Total          | \$123,289,594 | \$121,664,594 |

The projected expenditures for the General Fund represent a decrease of \$4,293,997 or 4%.

Any changes in the budget will be through the normal General Appropriations Act Amendment (GAAA) process. A final budget document will be published after the budget is approved.

**It was moved by:** Trustee Walsh  
**Supported by:** Trustee Ismail

**THAT the Board accept the budget presented for the 2009-2010 school year.**

**Ayes:** Trustees Dindoffer, Gafa, Ismail, Kosinski, Steininger and Walsh  
**Nays:** None                      **Absent:** Trustee Minturn  
**Motion carried by a 6 – 0 vote.**

**F. Approval of Contract with PESG**

The administration has been in communication with the Professional Educational Services Group, LLC (PESG) to contract the employment of the district's coaching staff. PESG would be the employer of the coaches (non instructional staff) and Grosse Pointe Public Schools would pay the agreed upon coach's earned payroll and a contractual fee of 14.00% to PESG. A copy of the proposed contract with PESG for the purpose of functioning as the primary employer of the coaches (non-instructional staff) for the district and the resulting fee for such services was provided to the Board.

**It was Moved by:** Trustee Walsh  
**Supported by:** Trustee Ismail

**THAT the Board approve the contract with the Professional Educational Services Group, LLC (PESG) for the contracting of the district's coaching staff.**

**Ayes:** Trustees Dindoffer, Gafa, Ismail, Kosinski, Steininger and Walsh  
**Nays:** None                      **Absent:** Trustee Minturn  
**Motion carried with a 6 – 0 vote.**

Mr. Harwood noted, after Board discussion, that this contract only includes coaches that are not part of the district's teaching staff. Those coaches that are still part of the teacher's bargaining group and would still be paid under that contract with the district.

**G. Approval of Contract for Food Services**

Dr. Klein noted that Sodexo has been the food services contractor since 2005. Mr. Fenton said that the state now controls the bidding process and the contract application. The district has not yet received the contract back from the state. The administration is asking the Board to table this item until the July board meeting.

**It was moved by:** Trustee Walsh  
**Supported by:** Trustee Dindoffer

**THAT the Board table the contract for food services with Sodexo until the July 27, 2009 meeting.**

**Ayes:** Trustees Dindoffer, Gafa, Ismail, Kosinski, Steininger and Walsh  
**Nays:** None                      **Absent:** Trustee Minturn  
**Motion carried by a 6 – 0 vote.**

Michelle Knotts, Sodexo Manager, answered questions from the Board.

President Kosinski commented that she and Mrs. Gafa had attended Sodexo review sessions noting that Sodexo has worked collaboratively with the district and done an amazing job of promoting their products to bring the school cafeterias the items requested by parents and students.

Ms. Knotts introduced her Sodexho team: Mollie Sees, administrative assistant; Katrina Abrams, food service manager; and Kim Drohan, supervisor of elementary food services and elementary program development.

**H. Approval of G.A.A.A. #3**

According to Public Act 621 from which the General Appropriations Act is derived there can be no deviation from the original appropriations Act without amending the Act. Specifically, 621 states in Section 17:

"... a deviation from the original general appropriations Act shall not be made without amending the general appropriations act. The legislative body of a local unit shall amend the general appropriations act as soon as it becomes apparent that a deviation from the original general appropriations act is necessary and the amount of the deviation can be determined."

Deviations requested since the budget was amended on February 23, 2009 have been presented as part of the attached General Appropriations Act Amendment No. 3.

The following is a summary of the changes:

GENERAL FUND

Revenue & Sources

|                     |                  |                                  |
|---------------------|------------------|----------------------------------|
| Local               | (\$181,661)      | Decrease in taxes and interest   |
| State               | \$499,698        | Prior Year Adjustments State Aid |
| State               | (\$3,191,076)    | AARA Stabilization               |
| Federal             | \$3,191,076      | AARA Stabilization               |
| Other County Grants | <u>(269,912)</u> | Decrease in Act 18               |
|                     | \$48,125         | Increase in Revenue              |

Expenditures

|                   |               |                                     |
|-------------------|---------------|-------------------------------------|
| Basic Program     | \$809,000     | Reclassification of fringe benefits |
| Added Needs       | (638,401)     | Reclassification of fringe benefits |
| Business Services | (170,599)     | Reclassification of fringe benefits |
| Business Services | <u>31,834</u> | Unemployment expense                |
|                   | \$31,834      | Increase in Expenditures            |

|                       |          |                                  |
|-----------------------|----------|----------------------------------|
| Reserved Fund Balance | \$16,290 | Increase in Fund Balance 6/30/09 |
|-----------------------|----------|----------------------------------|

**SCHOOL SERVICE FUND**

|         |                 |                  |
|---------|-----------------|------------------|
| Local   | (\$68,460)      | Reclassification |
| State   | \$2,000         | Reclassification |
| Federal | <u>\$66,460</u> | Reclassification |
|         | \$0             | Net effect zero  |

**Expenditures**

|               |                 |                          |
|---------------|-----------------|--------------------------|
| Basic Program | <u>\$16,523</u> | Variable expenses        |
|               | \$16,523        | Increase in Expenditures |

|              |          |                                  |
|--------------|----------|----------------------------------|
| Fund Balance | \$16,523 | Decrease in Fund Balance 6/30/09 |
|--------------|----------|----------------------------------|

**Sinking Fund**

**Revenue & Sources**

|       |         |                             |
|-------|---------|-----------------------------|
| Local | \$2,000 | Decrease in interest income |
|       | \$2,000 | Decrease in Revenue         |

|              |         |                                  |
|--------------|---------|----------------------------------|
| Fund Balance | \$2,000 | Decrease in Fund Balance 6/30/09 |
|--------------|---------|----------------------------------|

**Capital Projects Fund**

**Revenue & Sources**

|       |             |                             |
|-------|-------------|-----------------------------|
| Local | (\$210,500) | Decrease in interest income |
|       | (\$210,500) | Decrease in Revenue         |

|              |             |                                  |
|--------------|-------------|----------------------------------|
| Fund Balance | (\$210,500) | Decrease in Fund Balance 6/30/09 |
|--------------|-------------|----------------------------------|

**Debt Fund**

**Revenue & Sources**

|       |            |                             |
|-------|------------|-----------------------------|
| Local | (\$35,000) | Decrease in interest income |
|       | (\$35,000) | Decrease in Revenue         |

|              |            |                                  |
|--------------|------------|----------------------------------|
| Fund Balance | (\$35,000) | Decrease in Fund Balance 6/30/09 |
|--------------|------------|----------------------------------|

**It was Moved by:** Trustee Ismail

**Supported by:** Trustee Walsh

**THAT the Board approve the G.A.A.A. #3 as presented.**

**Ayes:** Trustees Dindoffer, Gafa, Ismail, Kosinski, Steininger and Walsh

**Nays:** None

**Absent:** Trustee Minturn

**Motion carried by a 6 – 0 vote.**

President Kosinski said she failed to note earlier in the meeting that Trustee Ismail's resolution on enrollment eligibility (scheduled to be on tonight's agenda for action) was reviewed in an earlier closed session to discuss a legal

opinion regarding that same resolution. At that time, the resolution was withdrawn along with the administrative proposal for enrollment eligibility.

### **I. Approval of Layoffs of Support Personnel**

As a result of the budget reductions in various departments, it is necessary to terminate the employment of effected bargaining unit employees.

The Board received a list of Classroom Assistant, Clerical and Non-Instructional Supervisor personnel whose services were to be terminated by Board action. Termination of service is effective June 12, 2009, June 30, 2009 and August 14, 2009 depending on the employee's group and scheduled work year.

**It was Moved by:** Trustee Walsh  
**Supported by:** Trustee Steininger

**THAT the Board approve layoffs of support personnel.**

**Ayes:** Trustees Dindoffer, Gafa, Ismail, Kosinski, Steininger and Walsh  
**Nays:** None                      **Absent:** Trustee Minturn  
**Motion carried by a 6 – 0 vote.**

### **J. Approval of Combined Middle School Wrestling Teams**

Due to smaller numbers of participants in wrestling at Parcels and Brownell, the middle school administration recommends that middle school wrestling for those schools be combined into one program. Pierce will continue to host its own team. Participation fees will be paid to the student's home school, and the expenses split accordingly. Since both schools have seen a consistently smaller number of dedicated wrestlers, it is the hope that this action will enhance the opportunity to participate in wrestling for students at both schools.

The Michigan High School Athletic Association (MHSAA) requirements for combined programs include Board of Education approval as well as approval by the MHSAA Executive Committee ninety days before the start of the seasons. Since the MHSAA Executive Committee meets in early August, in order to have these materials to them prior to the meeting, the Board is asked to take action at the June meeting.

**It was Moved by:** Trustee Walsh  
**Supported by:** Trustee Ismail

**THAT the Board approve the combined middle school wrestling teams.**

**Ayes:** Trustees Dindoffer, Gafa, Ismail, Kosinski, Steininger and Walsh  
**Nays:** None                      **Absent:** Trustee Minturn  
**Motion carried by a 6 – 0 vote.**

## **K. Approval of Bids**

### **1. Parcels Addition**

On April 2, 2009, bids were opened for the performing arts addition and improvements project at Parcels Middle School. Twenty-two companies attended the mandatory pre-bid meeting and eighteen submitted bids.

The project is being funded from the bond fund with a budget of \$500,000.

After reviewing the bids and meeting with the architect and three lowest bidders, the administration is asking the Board to reject all bids for the Parcels auditorium addition.

Mr. Fenton said that he felt that the bids are still too high and the goal is to change the configuration of the project and rebid it. He noted that the square footage of the project will be cut back and a few things changed to drop the price.

**It was Moved by:** Trustee Steininger

**Supported by:** Trustee Ismail

**THAT the Board reject the Parcels project bids.**

**Ayes:** Trustees Dindoffer, Gafa, Ismail, Kosinski, Steininger and Walsh

**Nays:** None

**Absent:** Trustee Minturn

**Motion carried by a 6 – 0 vote.**

### **2. Defer Gym Floor Replacement**

In April, 2009, bids were opened for wood gymnasium floor replacement at Defer Elementary School. Three companies attended the mandatory pre-bid meeting and all submitted bids.

The gym floor replacement includes complete removal of the entire flooring system and installation of a new cushioned wood gym floor. This project is funded from the sinking fund. Administration is recommending that the Board award the bid for this floor replacement to All Court, Inc. for \$56,250.

**It was Moved by:** Trustee Dindoffer

**Supported by:** Trustee Steininger

**THAT the Board award the bid for the Defer gym floor replacement to All Court, Inc. for \$56,250.**

**Ayes:** Trustees Dindoffer, Gafa, Ismail, Kosinski, Steininger and Walsh

**Nays:** None

**Absent:** Trustee Minturn

**Motion carried by a 6 – 0 vote.**

### **3. Brownell Roof**

In April, 2009, bids were opened for roof "A" replacement at Brownell Middle School. Nine companies attended the mandatory pre-bid meeting and all submitted bids.

The scope of work includes removal of the existing roof, increasing the roof insulation and replacing with new roofing. The project is being funded from the sinking fund. The Board is asked to award the bid to Lutz Roofing Company, Inc. for \$137,550.

**It was Moved by:** Trustee Gafa

**Supported by:** Trustee Walsh

**THAT the Board award the bid for the Brownell roof to Lutz Roofing Company, Inc. for \$137,550.**

**Ayes:** Trustees Dindoffer, Gafa, Ismail, Kosinski, Steininger and Walsh

**Nays:** None

**Absent:** Trustee Minturn

**Motion carried by a 6 – 0 vote.**

### **L. Approval of Contracts with Temporary School Services**

Since the beginning of the 2007-2008 school year, the Grosse Pointe Board of Education has contracted with Mr. Leo Warras through a third-party contractor, Temporary School Services, Inc. to serve as Executive Director of Curriculum, Instruction, Assessment and Technology.

For the 2009-10 school year, the services of Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum, Instruction, Assessment and Technology, Dr. Susan Allan, will also be contracted through Temporary School Services. Both administrators will be contracted for a total of an eleven months spread through the twelve month calendar year.

Proposed contracts with Temporary School Services, Inc. were provided to the Board. The contract duration is for one year, with a cancellation provision of 60 days. The district realizes an annual net savings of approximately \$58,000 through this arrangement. This contract and arrangement have been previously reviewed and discussed with district legal counsel.

**It was Moved by:** Trustee Walsh

**Supported by:** Trustee Ismail

**THAT the Board approve the contracts with Temporary School Services.**

**Ayes:** Trustees Dindoffer, Gafa, Ismail, Kosinski, Steininger and Walsh

**Nays:** None

**Absent:** Trustee Minturn

**Motion carried by a 6 – 0 vote.**

### **M. Approval of Board Policy 2624 – Return of Student Work**

In a recent Board report from the Policy Committee, there was discussion of the implementation of current Policy 2624 – Providing Meaningful Feedback on Student Work.

Trustee Dindoffer explained that approximately one year ago, teachers had suggested that instead of mandating that all assessments be returned to students, teachers would find alternative methods to provide meaningful feedback to students. The Board agreed to allow teachers to pilot various methods of meaningful feedback short of returning all work, with the understanding that the decision would be reviewed at the end of the 2008-09 school year.

The policy committee has reviewed the results of a recent survey of high school parents, staff and students on this topic and met with high school administrators and members of the Grosse Pointe Education Association (GPEA) to discuss the current policy and possible changes to it.

After these recent discussions, review of the survey results and other feedback, the Policy Committee is recommending that the Board rescind the present Policy 2624 – Providing Meaningful Feedback on Student Work and adopt a new Policy 2624, effective for the 2009-2010 school year.

Copies of the current Board Policy 2624 – Providing Meaningful Feedback on Student Work, the proposed revision presented to the Board at their June 8, 2009 meeting and an alternate revision based on discussions at the June 17, 2009 policy meeting were provided to the Board for further review.

The recommendation is that the Board review proposed changes to Policy 2624 and approve a revised policy which would go into effect for the 2009-10 school year.

President Kosinski clarified that the motion was to approve the revised and last version of the Policy 2624, Return of Student Work.

Trustee Dindoffer suggested that the Board adopt the last revision of this policy.

**It was Moved by:** Trustee Dindoffer

**Supported by:** Trustee Ismail

**THAT the Board approve the latest revision of Board Policy 2624, Return of Student Work.**

**Ayes:** Trustees Dindoffer, Gafa, Ismail, Kosinski, Steininger and Walsh

**Nays:** None

**Absent:** Trustee Minturn

**Motion carried by a 6 – 0 vote.**

**ACTION ITEMS  
FOR  
JULY 27, 2009**

**A. Approval of Human Resources Report for June, 2009**

The Human Resources Report includes the hiring of employees for: Summer camps: Camp O' Fun and Camp Invention; Extended School Year; summer maintenance employees; Summer School Program teachers; as well as the hire of a teacher of Mandarin Chinese for the next school year. Some recalls from layoffs were also included on this report.

Mr. Harwood explained that for the initial stage of recalls, seventeen of the 74 teachers laid off have been recalled. Future recall potentials will appear on upcoming Human Resources reports. Dr. Klein added that retirements since the last meeting are: Dr. Susan Allan, Val Ash, Charlotte Hage, LoAnn Dillenbeck, Gerald Tech, and Greg Winne.

**B. Approval of Closed Session Meeting Minutes of June 8, 2009 and Closed Session and Regular Meeting Minutes of June 22, 2009**

The minutes of the closed session of and the work session and regular meeting minutes will be available before the next regular meeting in July.

**C. Approval of High School Math Textbooks**

The new math curriculum adopted last year requires textbooks that are aligned with state and district curriculum. The recommended books have now been piloted by both high schools and will support the new curricula for the course. Supplemental resources, including online materials, will come with the adoption. The textbooks presented for approval included: Algebra I Concepts and Skills (Algebra I Essentials); Algebra II (College prep); and Pre-Calculus Mathematics for Calculus (Pre-Calculus).

**D. Approval of Astronomy Textbook for Grade 6**

Changes in the Michigan K-7 Science Content Expectations, and changes in the timing of the 5<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade MEAP tests, have caused the district to realign its K-7 curriculum. As a result, the 6<sup>th</sup> grade science curriculum will include a new unit on Astronomy beginning in the 2009-2010 school year.

The district's sixth and seventh grade students already use the Science Explorer series for other units in the science curriculum. The Prentice Hall Science Explorer astronomy text contains all of the Michigan content expectations for middle school astronomy. An online edition will also be available upon purchase, along with a variety of digital support materials, including interactive text CDs. The textbook 6<sup>th</sup> grade Science textbook being presented is Science Explorer Astronomy by Dr. Jay Pasachoff.

**E. Approval of Memberships**

**1. Michigan Association of School Boards**

The Grosse Pointe Board of Education has been a member of the Michigan Association of School Boards for many years, benefiting from the

various publications, workshops, conferences, and other services provided by the Association. The membership dues for this year are \$7,800, which includes a contribution of \$437 to the legal Trust Fund. Membership in this organization is of value and recommended by the administration.

## **2. Michigan High School Athletic Association**

The Attorney General's ruling of August 11, 1977 stated that school districts could not delegate their supervisory and enforcement functions of inter-scholastic athletics to a private entity such as the Michigan High School Athletic Association (M.H.S.A.A.). However, he stated that it was entirely proper for a Board of Education to join with its schools in the M.H.S.A.A. and to adopt the rules of the Association and agree to be bound by those rules. Since regulation changes have been made, M.H.S.A.A. is asking for adoption of the attached resolution in order to continue our eligibility and participation in M.H.S.A.A. sponsored events. No dues are required for membership.

## **F. Approval of Resolution on Indemnification**

### **1. Liability Indemnification**

Consistent with past practice the Board of Education, it is recommended that the Board take action to indemnify board trustees, administrators, and non-instructional supervisory personnel.

### **2. Asbestos Indemnification**

#### **a. Operation and Maintenance Employees**

Employees of the school system are specifically excluded from liability insurance coverage for asbestos related activities.

A small number of operation and maintenance employees have been specifically trained to deal with "small-scale, short duration operation, maintenance and repair activities involving asbestos-containing materials." These employees have completed EPA and State approved training courses qualifying them to perform minor asbestos repairs.

On October 23, 1989 Public Act 203 became law authorizing a Board of Education to provide legal representation and indemnification against civil liability for employees who inspect, monitor or treat asbestos or material containing asbestos in the course of their employment.

The district recommends the Board indemnify the Manager of Buildings and Grounds and other specially designated asbestos operations and maintenance employees from any and all liability arising out of the performance by them of their asbestos-related operation and maintenance duties. This has been done since the 1990-91 school year.

#### **b. Designated Asbestos Coordinator**

This past March, Christian A. Fenton renewed his license to

continue as the designated asbestos coordinator. The resolution provided gives him indemnification from liability which might arise while performing his duties as the Designated Asbestos Coordinator.

### **G. Approval of Fidelity and Treasurer's Bonds**

The following coverage is for all employees and Board members involved in daily money and security transactions. It is recommended that the following be approved for 2009-10: \$1,000,000 Fidelity Bond (Criminal & Employee Dishonesty) for all employees and Board Members.

This bond, in conjunction with internal controls, procedures, and an outside audit, should allow adequate protection against any potential liabilities for the school system.

### **H. Approval of Designated Agent**

In accordance with the requirements of the Open Meetings Act, it is necessary to post the times and places of all Board of Education meetings. The following resolution authorizes the three employees listed to properly post such information: Executive Assistant to the Superintendent; Secretary to the Superintendent's office as first alternate; and the Director of Business Operations as the second alternate.

### **I. Approval of School Breakfast Program**

Public Act 335 of 1993 (Reference 380.1272a, 380.1272d) required all K-12 districts to provide breakfast for full-time students, except if the number of free/reduced lunches in the previous year was 20% or less of the total enrollment at any of the school buildings in the district.

The administration is recommending that the school system not operate such a breakfast program in any one of its school buildings except at Poupard Elementary where the participation rate is 34.8%. The Board has conducted a public hearing as requested by law.

### **J. Approval of Co-Chairs for Human Sexuality Advisory Board for 2009-2010**

By state regulations, each year the School Board is asked to approve the appointment of the co-chairs (at least one of whom must be the parent of a child attending school in the district) of the Human Sexuality Advisory Board. The Human Sexuality Advisory Board has unanimously elected Jody Kommel, an attorney who works for Henry Ford Health Services, as the parent co-chair. The district administration has nominated Dr. Michael Dib, Principal of Brownell Middle School, as the administrator co-chair.

### **K. Approval of Authorized Debit/Credit Card Users**

In accordance with policy 6423, a list of those positions that will be using school system debit/credit cards for the 2009-2010 school year has been provided to the Board of Education for review.

### **L. Approval of Transfer Agent to Designate Electronic Funds**

At the January 2009 board meeting, the Board of Education approved the continuance of funds and accounts and designation of signatories on accounts. In adhering with the new board policy 6144 the board must also designate those who can transfer funds electronically. In keeping with the policy and the resolution adopted in January 2009, the administration is asking for approval for the following people for electronic transfers:

- C. Suzanne Klein , Superintendent
- Christian A. Fenton, Assist. Supt. for Business and Support Services
- Isha Smith, Director of Business Operations
- Frederick K. Minturn, School Board Treasurer

In addition, the Board policy 6144 should be changed and acted on in January each year. The January resolution was provided as a reference.

### **M. Approval of Tuition Rates for 2009-10**

A tuition rate is charged based on the following categories:

- 1) For students (legal residents as defined by State law) who are in the process of moving into the district but the move in-date (closing) is after the start of school. This typically only impacts five families per year. A 20 day deposit is required upon entry.
- 2) For students (legal residents) who are moving out before the close of school year (or prior to a semester break) that want to complete the year or the term before enrolling in their new school. This affects only a small number of students per year and usually runs a maximum of 20 to 40 school days.
- 3) For students (legal residents) who will be in their senior year of high school who have moved to another district. This student is allowed to finish high school in accordance with Board policy and typically impacts only one or two students per year.

The tuition rates being proposed are based on the following:

\$1,893 Hold Harmless Millage  
180 School Days  
\$10.52 per day tuition  
\$ 2.98 per day based on 28.3% overhead  
**\$13.50 total per day tuition for Category 1, 2 and 3**

### **N. Approval of Recommendation from the Reinstatement Panel**

A student hearing that recently took place is still under review by the Board

and therefore, a recommendation from the Reinstatement Panel is forthcoming.

#### **O. Approval of Cash Flow Borrowing for 2009-10**

There are three options that the administration will offer the Board: tax anticipation note (which has not been done in the past); cash flow borrowing against our state aid payment; and a line of credit (which is what the district did last year). Mr. Fenton noted that the district anticipates requesting a line of credit for the next school year also. One of the issues the district needed to get resolved is the cash flow from the state and the federal funds mentioned earlier. He anticipates bringing this to the Board at their next meeting in July. In spite of tight credit times, two banking institutions agreed to provide the cash flow needed by the district, which is the least expensive way to go for the school system. The district would borrow the money and then repay it quickly in a September, October, November time-frame.

#### **P. Approval of Bids**

##### **1. Parcels Addition**

Mr. Fenton anticipates bringing the Parcels addition to the Board in July after re-bidding the project.

##### **2. Security at North High School**

Mr. Fenton said that the district has gone out to bid for the exterior security at North High School where parking lot attendants are outsourced through a third party. He will bring those bids to the Board at the July meeting.

### **INFORMATION AND DISCUSSION**

#### **A. Policy Update**

Trustee Dindoffer thanked fellow Board members for approving the revised Policy 2624, Return of Student Work, as it was modified from the June 22, 2009 work session. She also thanked the teachers and administrators again for their input as well as her colleagues on the Policy Committee.

The administration has been working on Administrative Guidelines that are companions to the policies that were adopted earlier in the year. In addition, the Policy Committee reviewed NEOLA's suggested updates to policies based on new legislation and other changes in the law. The Board should expect that before the end of the summer some of those policies would be presented for approval.

President Kosinski asked when the Policy Committee would be ready to present the Administrative Guidelines. Trustee Dindoffer said she is not sure whether or not the guidelines will be ready before the next meeting. Dr. Klein noted that Mr. Warras is working on the guidelines and policies with the goal of presenting them to the Board soon.

#### **B. Financial Reports**

Mr. Fenton commented that the G.A.A.A. #3 will be posted on the district website as well as the other financial reports presented including the Budget

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|   | Model Utility Report and the vendor report.  |
| <b>FUTURE MEETINGS</b>                              | President Kosinski announced that the Board will hold a Regular Meeting on July 27, 2009 at 8 p.m. in Wicking Library at South High School Library.  |
| <b>PUBLIC COMMENTS ON NON-ACTION ITEMS</b>          | <p>Mr. Mike Shield, shared his thoughts on the employment of coaches for athletics and the process in hiring and retaining those coaches.</p> <p>Mrs. Nancy Nihem, Grosse Pointe Woods, asked for clarification on the Board's policy for class size.</p> <p>Mr. Tom Jakubiec, Grosse Pointe Woods, shared his ideas for revenue for the school district and the storage of important data.</p>  |
| <b>OTHER COMMENTS FROM BOARD AND SUPERINTENDENT</b> | <p>Trustee Steininger had no comment.</p> <p>Trustee Dindoffer had no comment.</p> <p>Trustee Walsh remarked on a speaker's comment that the Board would try to "slip something by [the residents] in July" saying that that statement is untrue. He said that that was an unfair allegation and takes great umbrage with it. He noted that the Board goes to great lengths to be as transparent as possible publishing Board actions months in advance on the district website.</p> <p>Trustee Walsh also said that not only will budget revenue discussions for the next school year begin soon, but also cost cutting discussions.</p> <p>Trustee Gafa agreed with Mr. Walsh' comments that Board members make decisions and hold discussions on issues in public. She congratulated all of the seniors who just graduated.</p> <p>Trustee Ismail commented that an enjoyable aspect of being on the Board of Education is the opportunity to participate in graduation ceremonies.</p> <p>Dr. Klein noted that an earlier packet of information to the Board contained the Elementary Curriculum Guide which will soon be on the district website for parent review. She also said that summer school will be starting soon for those interested in enrolling their students.</p> <p>President Kosinski also commented on the graduation ceremonies. She echoed Trustee Walsh's comments noting that she "bristles" when the Board is accused of hiding or not revealing information about the school district. She said that the Board "bends over backwards" to make sure that everything is posted and available to the public.</p> |
| <b>ADJOURNMENT</b>                                  | There being no further business, President Kosinski adjourned the meeting at 10:34 p.m.  |

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Board Secretary