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Grosse Pointe Board of Education
Minutes of the Regular Meeting of March 23, 2009
Library, Grosse Pointe North High School
707 Vernier, Grosse Pointe Woods, MI 48236

MEETING MINUTES	<p>President Kosinski called the meeting to order at 8:32 p.m.</p> <p>The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Trustee Walsh.</p>
CALL TO ORDER	<p>Board members present: Trustees Dindoffer, Gafa, Ismail, Kosinski, Minturn, Steininger and Walsh</p> <p>Also Present: Superintendent Klein, Assistant Superintendents Allan, Fenton and Harwood, Executive Director Warras</p>
SUPERINTENDENT REPORT AND RECOGNITIONS	<p>Dr. Klein began with an update on the Federal Stimulus Funding. She and Trustee Walsh attended a session with the head of the Senate Fiscal Agency, Mr. Gary Olson, who presented a brief outline of what to expect. Grosse Pointe Schools will receive additional funding earmarked for Title I Programs and the district's special education program that will come with restrictions for spending. Mr. Olson cautioned that since the amount of funding posted on various website is not accurate, that districts wait for the additional guidance from the federal government as the money starts to flow through to the State of Michigan. Hopefully there will be more information within the next couple of weeks to share with the community and Board of Education.</p> <p>Mr. Olson stated that the Fiscal Stabilization funding expected will restore the \$59 per pupil reduction that the governor announced in her proposed budget. It might be a source for restoration of the 20J funds. What is not known is whether there will be any other funding through the Fiscal Stabilization Fund. Mr. Oslon suggested that we not count on additional monies.</p> <p>As a follow-up to last month's board meeting discussion, Dr. Klein presented a virtual tour of bond and sinking fund projects throughout the district for community members to view. This special presentation is also available for viewing on the district website.</p> <p>The district is seeking parent and student representatives interested in participating in the review and revision of the K-12 Language Arts curriculum. Please call Dr. Susan Allan's office at 432-3043 if interested.</p> <p>Dr. Klein announced that the South Art Fest opens this week. The opening ceremonies are tomorrow at 7 p.m. with awards in the auditorium at 8 p.m. There will be viewing of the art work this Wednesday, Thursday and Friday as well as Saturday.</p> <p>A group of students from the North High School economics class recently social studies class had an opportunity to participate in the 2009 Global had</p>

	<p>an opportunity to participate in the 2009 Global Trade Mission hosted by Automation Alley and Oakland Schools. North students participated in a three-day international business competition with other student leaders throughout Genesee, Wayne, Macomb, St. Clair and Oakland counties to work on their interpersonal communication, and marketing skills.</p> <p>Dr. Klein congratulated North High School students as the boys won the district basketball finals and the girls won the regional basketball championship. South girl's ice hockey team repeated as state champions. Jordan Long who also received a second state championship in diving.</p> <p>The recycling event planned for this Saturday has been cancelled by the corporate sponsor. It was part of the Go Green initiative of the district.</p> <p>Grosse Pointe North students performed "Thoroughly Modern Millie" last week at the Performing Arts Center, while Pierce students performed "Seussical" on March 19 and 20. Both performances provided for delightful evenings for the audience. Brownell students will be performing "The Wiz" the first week in April, while South students are preparing for their performance of "Hello Dolly" at the end of April and first weekend in May.</p>
PUBLIC COMMENTS ON CONSENT AGENDA ACTION ITEMS	No one came forward to comment.
PUBLIC COMMENTS ON ACTION ITEMS	No one came forward to speak.
CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS FROM FEBRUARY 23, 2009	<p>The following items were contained in the Consent Agenda:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> A. Human Resources Report of February, 2009 B. Textbook – Grade 5 Science C. Curriculum Revisions – K-7 Science <p>Moved by: Trustee Walsh Supported by: Trustee Minturn</p> <p>THAT the Board approve the Consent Agenda as presented.</p> <p>Ayes: Trustees Dindoffer, Gafa, Ismail, Kosinski, Minturn, Steininger and Walsh Nays: None Motion carried by a 7 – 0 vote.</p>
ACTION ITEMS FOR MARCH 23, 2009	<p>A. Approval of Gift from Defer PTO</p> <p>On May 27, 2008, the Board of Education approved the third phase of the air conditioning project at Defer. As part of the project, the Defer PTO raised</p>

funds to help pay for this phase of the air conditioning prior to the district beginning actual installation. The project was completed this past summer in the 2008-09 fiscal year. The Defer PTO formally presented and asked the Board to accept their gift of \$56,930 for the air conditioning project there.

Moved by: Trustee Walsh

Supported by: Trustee Minturn

THAT the Board approve the gift from Defer PTO for \$56,930 for the air conditioning project.

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

Nays: None

Motion carried by a 7 – 0 vote.

Trustee Walsh accepted the check from Michelle Bauer, Defer PTO President, on behalf of the Board for the Defer air conditioning project.

B. Approval of Minutes of February 23, 2009

The minutes of the Board work session and regular meeting of February 23, 2009 were presented for approval.

Moved by: Trustee Walsh

Supported by: Trustee Minturn

THAT the Board approve the minutes of the February 23, 2009 board meeting as presented.

Trustee Dindoffer noted that the Board discussion of the enrollment of children of non-resident employees was an extensive discussion and she would like the minutes to reflect what each Board member expressed on the topic.

Trustee Walsh commented that Board members had the minutes in draft form prior to the meeting with ample time to submit revisions or additions. Trustees Steininger and Ismail noted that they too had comments to add to the minutes of February 23, 2009.

Mr. Walsh withdrew his motion to approve the minutes.

It was moved by: Trustee Dindoffer

Supported by: Trustee Steininger

THAT the minutes of the Board meeting of February 23, 2009 be tabled until the comments of Board can be reflected in those minutes.

Ayes: Trustees Dindoffer, Gafa, Ismail, Kosinski, Minturn and Steininger

Nays: Trustee Walsh

Motion carried by a 6 – 1 vote.

C. Approval of Resolution Recognizing Distinguished Volunteers

Since 1984 the Board has been expressing its appreciation to citizens who volunteer their time and effort for the programs and activities of the public schools.

Trustee Ismail described the Board's volunteer recognition program and Trustee Steininger announced the names of the nominees selected to receive the Distinguished Volunteers awards.

It was moved by: Trustee Gafa

Supported by: Trustee Minturn

THAT the Board approve the resolution recognizing Distinguished Volunteers.

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

Nays: None

Motion carried by a 7 – 0 vote.

D. Approval of Bids

1. North Asbestos

Bids for asbestos abatement for "B" building first floor interior improvements at Grosse Pointe North High School were opened in early March, 2009.

The base bid for the abatement of "B" building includes first floor corridors, stairwells, (first and third floors) core and exterior classrooms.

A floor plan indicating where the asbestos had been removed or will be removed this summer was provided to Board members.

The project will be funded completely from the bond fund, begin on June 15, 2009 and be completed by July 24, 2009.

It was moved by: Trustee Dindoffer

Supported by: Trustee Ismail

THAT the Board award the bid for the North asbestos removal to Michigan Mechanical Abatement, Inc. for \$320,000.

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

Nays: None

Motion carried by a 7 – 0 vote.

	<p style="text-align: center;">2. North “B” Building First Floor Interior Improvements</p> <p>Sixteen companies submitted bids for interior improvements at Grosse Pointe North High School in the “B” building first floor. The work will not be done until the asbestos abatement is completed. The bid includes minor demolition, locker replacement, ceiling and lighting replacement, flooring replacement, carpentry, minor mechanical and electrical.</p> <p>The project will be funded out of the sinking fund. The project will begin on July 15, 2009 and be completed no later than August 21, 2009.</p> <p>It was moved by: Trustee Dindoffer Supported by: Trustee Ismail</p> <p>THAT the Board award the bid for the first floor interior improvements at North High School to Oyk Construction for \$387,997.</p> <p>Ayes: Trustees Dindoffer, Gafa, Ismail, Kosinski, Minturn, Steininger and Walsh Nays: None Motion carried by a 7 – 0 vote.</p>
<p>ACTION ITEMS FOR APRIL 27, 2009</p>	<p>A. Approval of Human Resources Report for March, 2009</p> <p>The Human Resources Report contains the retirement/resignation/or leave of absence of three instructional staff members.</p> <p>Assistant Superintendent for Human Resources, Tom Harwood, explained the process for layoffs and contractually what the district is obligated to do for teachers affected by that process. By contract, the district is required to inform teachers sixty days prior to June 30 to let them know they have been affected with a layoff notice. The Board has to approve a resolution 60 days prior to June 30 listing the names of those who will be given layoff notices. That list will be distributed to Board members at the April 27th meeting. On April 28th the administration will deliver notices to those individuals who have been identified for layoff.</p> <p>B. Approval of Minutes of March 23, 2009</p> <p>The minutes of the March 23, 2009 Board meeting will be presented before the next regular meeting of the Board.</p> <p>C. Approval of Curriculum Revisions</p> <p style="text-align: center;">1. Grade 3 Social Studies Curriculum</p> <p>Ann Passino, Social Studies Curriculum Specialist, and Maire Principal, Kathy Satut, shared information about changes to the 3rd grade social studies curriculum as it moves from a study of regions to a study of origins.</p>

The Social Studies curriculum for Grades K-2 and 5-12 was approved by the Board of Education last spring. At that time, the committee explained that state revisions had changed the grade in which Michigan Studies are to be taught from 4th grade to a split between 3rd and 4th grades. This is a significant departure from current curriculum and materials which required additional study and development time with the committee and teachers at each of these grade levels.

The Social Studies committee, composed of teachers, parents, students and administrators, examined the new curriculum expectations, analyzed data from the state, and consulted other districts. The proposed curriculum for Grade 3 Social Studies is now completely aligned with state standards and builds four capacities in young people: disciplinary knowledge; thinking skills; commitment to democratic values; and citizen participation.

One of the difficulties in adjusting to the new state sequence is that teaching materials needed to be created that are developmentally appropriate as publishers have not yet done so. The fourth grade curriculum is not yet being presented for implementation and will continue in its present form until the district can evaluate the new materials that may become available or create our own. Since elementary social studies is tested by the state at the beginning of the 6th grade, our students will not be at any disadvantage by the committee taking time to consider the best curriculum organization or materials. As long as students have studied the information prior to the end of elementary school, they will have what is needed before testing.

2. Grade K-5 Physical Education Curriculum

Cheryl Gawel and Deb Raab presented information on the K-5 Physical Education curriculum which was last revised in 2000. During the 2007-08 school year, a K-12 Committee was formed to revise the full curriculum in alignment with state standards that had not been in existence during the prior review. Due to the ongoing study of the middle school day and the recent implementation of Personal Curriculum (which impacts high school offerings), the K-5 portion of the curriculum is being proposed for approval and implementation prior to the secondary portion which will come to the Board in the 2009-10 school year.

The revised elementary curriculum continues the existing mission and philosophy of the district but updates the standards and places increased emphasis on brain-based activities that stimulate learning and the development of life-long physical skills.

3. K-12 Music Curriculum

John Donnellon and Mary Jane Failla presented information on the K-12 Music Curriculum which was adopted by the district in 1999, prior to the development of the Michigan Merit Curriculum and the current content guidelines for the Visual, Performing and Applied Arts. Although there have

been some course additions and modifications since that time, a major curriculum revision was due.

The proposed K-12 Music Curriculum, developed by a committee of teachers, administrators and parents, meets or exceeds all state and national standards. Standards related to creating music; analyzing and evaluating music; analyzing historical, social and cultural concepts; and recognizing connections between music and other disciplines are greatly enhanced in the new curriculum. The excellent skills preparation always afforded the district's students is balanced by greater emphasis on the artistic processes of both vocal and instrumental music.

One new course, Chamber Choir/Classical Ensemble, is included in the proposed curriculum. This course is intended to accommodate the needs of the advanced music student who prefers an opportunity to focus on classical and a cappella vocal music without choreography.

4. Grade 4 and 5 Library Media Curriculum

Karen Villegas and Shari Martin presented information on the revised library media curriculum for grades 4 and 5. During the 2007-08 school year, foreign language instruction was implemented in the district's elementary schools. In order to create time within the "rotations" in the elementary school day, library instruction was reduced from 44 sessions over the course of a year to 22 sessions with some aspects of the curriculum being integrated within the regular classroom or within other grade levels. Instructional time in grades K-3 did not change. The current curriculum was predicated on the longer instructional time. In January 2007, EPLC approved the formation of a committee to revise the grade 4 and 5 curriculum to reflect the changed schedule.

The revised curriculum places considerable emphasis on integrating library skills with other content areas and, therefore, reinforcing classroom instruction. Collaboration with classroom teachers has been an aspect of the development of the plan and will be an essential aspect as it is implemented.

5. Pre-Calculus Curriculum

Greg Johnson and David Martin presented information on the pre-calculus curriculum for approval. The mathematics curriculum was approved by the Board of Education in 2006. At that time the full sequence of courses and the complete curricula for the first three courses (Algebra I, Geometry and Algebra II) were presented at public forums and were approved. The current approval is for the Pre-Calculus curriculum. (Calculus has not changed and is determined by the Advanced Placement curriculum.) As with the prior mathematics courses, the general standards are constant for both Regular and Honors Regular courses but the problems in Honors reflect the increased depth of knowledge and complexity of the learning expectations. The curriculum is therefore designed to provide the standard and then use sample problems to reflect the expected complexity at each level.

D. Approval of Textbooks

1. Theory of Learning

Theory of Learning was approved by the Board as a new class for the 2009-10 school year and is a course in epistemology. The proposed book offers a wide range of ideas, theories and inquiries and supports the intent of the course by dividing the text into multiple disciplinary fields. It was highly recommended by teachers of similar courses in other districts. The title of the book is Man is the Measure: A Cordial Invitation to the Central Problems of Philosophy by Reuben Abel. The total funding requested for these textbooks is \$1,617.

2. Math

One textbook presented is Geometry Concepts and Skills by Larson, Boswell and Staff McDougal Littell for the Geometry classes at North and South High Schools. The total amount for these texts will be \$18,359.

The second book is Algebra II Concepts and Skills by Larson, Boswell, Arnold and Staff McDougal Littell for Algebra II classes at North and South High Schools totaling \$20,090.

The new district curriculum adopted last year requires new textbooks aligned with state and revised district curriculum. The recommended books have been piloted by both schools and will support the new curricula for which they are recommended. The total amount requested for these math books is \$38,449.

These books have been selected by teacher committees and have the support of the building principals and the district for funding.

E. Approval of Transportation Bids

- 1. Athletic Events**
- 2. Special Education**

Information on the transportation bids will be available prior to the next Board meeting.

F. Approval of Resolution on Staffing Changes for 2009-10

- 1. Teacher Layoffs**
- 2. Non-Renewals**

Information on staffing changes for 2009-2010 will be available prior to the next Board meeting and presented at the April 27th meeting.

Trustee Ismail asked the difference between a teacher layoff and a non-renewal. Dr. Klein responded that a teacher layoff is when a teacher has been employed and, because of a change in the number of staffing positions in

the district, there will not be a position for that person. In a time when enrollment is decreasing and there is a need to respond to funding constraints, there may be a need to lay off teachers.

A non-renewal is when a staff person new to the district will not have their contract renewed for the following year.

Trustee Walsh asked if the administration could provide a write-up in the layoffs about projected enrollment. He asked that an explanation of the methodology used to obtain the information also be included.

G. Approval of Gift from South High School Golf Supporters

Information on the gift from the South High School golf supporters will be available prior to the next Board meeting.

H. Approval of Technology Purchases from Section 99 Grant for South High School and the Middle Schools

The district is requesting Board authorization to begin spending funds totaling \$520,235.71 from the state's Section 99 grant allocation to begin implementation of the technology plan at South High School, Brownell Middle School, Pierce Middle School and Parcells Middle School.

Before he left office, Representative Edward Gaffney was successful in bringing additional monies to the district for the purchase of resources to be used for mathematics, science and technology. The Section 99 grant monies that have been provided through his efforts total \$1,050,000 and will support a number of demonstration projects as well as basic instruction at all levels. There is also \$250,000 of the grant money available from the prior year's allocation for a total of \$1,300,000. The Section 99 grant funds come at an opportune time for they allow the district the opportunity to begin the implementation of its approved Technology Plan earlier than anticipated.

Over the past several months Manager of Technology Steve Woloszyn and Technology Curriculum Specialist Michael Spears have worked with building administrators and teachers, inventoried the district's current technology equipment, surveyed staff members, supported teachers who were willing to pilot various technology applications, and further developed the district's Technology Plan to bring all classrooms up to a new level of technological capacity required in today's schools.

To assist Board members in better understanding this initiative a number of documents have been prepared for review. These included the following:

- Grant allocation by building based on student count
- Carryover grant allocation based on student count
- South High School's detailed plan for purchase and allocation of equipment
- Summary of Middle School plans for purchase and allocation of

equipment

- Middle School's detailed plans by classroom
- Equipment recommendations for each level

One of the requirements for use of the section 99 monies is that demonstration projects utilizing technology be developed and shown by district staff to a larger audience. There is a total of \$27,573 reserved in the South High School plans and \$27,630 reserved in the Middle School plans to allow for teachers to file applications for purchase of different technologies, to pilot those technologies and to provide information about the usefulness of the technology.

All of the equipment planned for purchase is available on the State REMC contracts. Since these were bids done at the state level, GPPSS will not need to have a district level bid for this project.

Once orders are placed, it is anticipated that required installation of equipment in some classrooms will take place over spring vacation with the balance of the installation work to be completed over the summer so that these technologies will be available for use in September, 2009. Training for staff will continue this school year and additional training will be provided throughout the 2009-10 school year.

While much excitement has been generated in planning for the use of Section 99 funds, it should be noted that these monies are not sufficient to fund the entire Technology Plan. Additional resources will be needed in 2009-10 and 2010-11 if this technology initiative is to be fully implemented. Preliminary projections have been developed that will be revised as more information is acquired. Budget requirements will be more fully explored as the budget process for next year gets underway.

The Board is asked to authorize allocation of \$520,235.71 from the Section 99 grant monies to fund technology purchases at South High School, Brownell Middle School, Pierce Middle School and Parcels Middle School.

I. Approval of Bids

Information on the following bids will be available prior to the next Board meeting.

- 1. Ferry Elementary Fire Alarm Improvements**
- 2. Unit Price Term Contract Facility Standards for Wiring**

J. Approval of Investigations in Medicine Class

Last year, the Board approved a Medical Research and Clinical Investigations class as a pilot at North High School working in conjunction with Beaumont Hospital as a community partners. That class is a full year experience and the student clinical experiences are structured to occur throughout the year.

Simultaneously, South High School established a partnership with St. John Hospital that allowed students to have a summer internship during which

	<p>they rotated through various clinical departments. The current proposal establishes a class to extend that experience for students by providing a semester class during the school year and allowing students to have the option of full-day experiences during the summer at St. John's.</p> <p>The district's position is that both of these experiences are a wonderful opportunity for students. Different structures are needed to accommodate the preferences of the hospital community partners who are generously giving of their time and expertise to Grosse Pointe students who may be interested in pursuing a medical career.</p> <p>More information on the above course will be presented at the next Board meeting.</p>
INFORMATION AND DISCUSSION	<p>A. Financial Reports</p> <p>Mr. Fenton said that the financial information provided reflects the budget as approved through the last G.A.A.A. The reports reflect the Section 99 funds that the district is receiving for the current fiscal year. Monthly variable and semi-variable reports were also provided, reflecting the G.A.A.A. #2 as well as actuals of that date. These reports will be posted on the district webpage.</p> <p>Mr. Fenton also noted that he and Mr. Harwood have been working with the budget utility model report to make sure that all of the numbers are in alignment and accurately reflect projections.</p> <p>B. Approval of Diplomas for World War II and Korean War Veterans</p> <p>Public Act 181 of 2001 authorizes the Board of a Michigan school district to award a high school diploma to a World War II or Korean War veteran as a means of providing special recognition for the service and sacrifice of those military citizens.</p> <p>The law permits a World War II veteran who left a high school in this district between December 16, 1940 and December 31, 1946 for immediate military service and not subsequently receiving a high school degree to now apply for a diploma. Korean War veterans who left high school in this district between June 27, 1950 and January 31, 1955 may also apply. Specific family members may also apply on the behalf of a living or deceased veteran.</p> <p>Approximately 653,000 Michigan men and women served during WWII and approximately 220,000 Michigan men and women served during the Korean War. The U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs estimates about 175,000 World War II veterans and 125,000 Korean veterans currently live in Michigan.</p> <p>An application form, developed by the Department of Military and Veterans Affairs, must be completed by the veteran or veteran's spouse, brother or</p>

sister, children or grandchildren, on behalf of the veteran.

Trustee Dindoffer noted that last year at this time the Board determined that students entering a branch of military service or service academy could also be honored. She added that a policy was passed at the time to offer that same opportunity to those students while honoring the district's World War II and Korean War veterans.

C. Residency Update

President Kosinski asked Dr. Klein for an update on the status of the proposal to re-register students per the Board of Education's resolution that was brought forth by Mrs. Gafa and passed on February 23, 2009.

Dr. Klein described the administrative recommendation which call for a random sample of students from 940 households currently registered in grade kindergarten through grade 11. This sample size represents 20% of the current K-11 household population of 4,697. The sample would be drawn by using a computer random number generator, similar to the way jury selection is done. In addition, all new students to the school system in grades K-12 would be registered which represents another 400 households.

The re-registration period would extend from May 1, 2009 to August 15, 2009. The students in the particular randomly selected households would not be allowed to pick up schedules or participate in athletic practices without completing the registration process.

The cost of this re-registration would be approximately \$14,000 which would include mailing, supplies, part time help and legal fees. The cost of a full re-registration of all families would be approximately \$90,000.

Board members suggested 'currently in-place' activities that would be opportune times and cost efficient for this re-registration process.

Trustee Ismail asked that the district post an 'easy to find', one-click, location on the school's webpage for a tip line where residents could call anonymously to report a suspected non-resident student attending Grosse Pointe Schools. He also suggested a frequent checks for rental properties.

Trustee Gafa noted that her initial resolution on a re-registration process was to ensure that re-registration would take place but not use funds needed for classrooms or students. She added that May 1 through August 15 should be ample time for parents to complete the re-registration process and remain cost effective.

Trustee Minturn commented that if the district is going to pursue a re-registration process, it should be targeting the areas where there are problems.

Mr. Fenton reminded the Board that some of the situations reported are for

students living with relatives in the district who proved to be legitimately enrolled.

Trustee Minturn again asked if there are higher levels at certain schools. Mr. Fenton responded that there may be more at certain schools but every school has been investigated at some time. On the other hand, some schools have had 25 or 30 investigations. He added that the district does follow up on rental agreements including landlords who call to let the district know if their tenants have relocated.

Trustee Dindoffer noted that the district needs to be careful not to discriminate in this re-registration process, making sure that random audits are just that, random. She noted that with the economic times facing the community, people are moving out of homes and the district needs to be careful not to make any presumptions.

Trustee Steininger said that he does not think that a random sample will give the district the results that it is looking for. He noted that the district has hired an investigator and that a "tip line" would be a better plan given the costs of a re-registration program.

Trustee Walsh noted that the "tip line" already exists and is used today within the community. He commented that there is a diversity of opinion as to the actual problem and asked why those who feel there is a problem feel that way. He asked what is it that people are seeing that leads them to the conclusion that there is the scope of the problem as stated.

Trustee Steininger asked Mr. Fenton if he would advise a full blown re-registration or more investigations. Mr. Fenton replied that he would put time and effort into more investigations.

President Kosinski agrees that time and money should be used with investigations instead of random sampling.

Trustee Minturn said that he knows that the community feels that the Board and school district are not doing something right in regard to registration and investigating those students who are non-residents. Mr. Minturn said teachers at Parcels and North are telling him that there is a student residency problem. He concluded that this is a perception problem at minimum, or it may be a fact.

Mr. Fenton responded that teachers are encouraged to submit names of those students they feel are not resident students and each one will be investigated. He did add that, due to privacy issues, he cannot report to the resident or even teacher the results of the investigation, which is what some people who report students would like to receive.

Trustee Dindoffer asked Mr. Fenton to provide the Board with the results found from the 2005 re-registration process.

	Trustee Walsh would like to receive a report from Mr. Arnette Jordan, residency investigator for the school district, at the Board's next meeting.
FUTURE MEETINGS	President Kosinski announced that the Board will hold a Closed Work Session followed by a Regular Meeting of the Board on Monday, April 27, 2009 at 6 and 8 p.m. respectively in the North High School Library.
PUBLIC COMMENTS ON NON-ACTION ITEMS	No one came forward to comment at this time.
OTHER COMMENTS FROM BOARD AND SUPERINTENDENT	<p>Trustees Ismail, Dindoffer and Minturn had no comment.</p> <p>Trustee Gafa thanked the gym teachers for their presentation and the book that they distributed to the Board. She enjoyed watching "Seussical the Musical" at Pierce with the group of 3rd graders. She also went to see "Thoroughly Modern Millie", which was also a huge success. Mrs. Gafa also noted that Mason recently celebrated its 80th birthday with a party in February.</p> <p>Trustee Walsh commented on the status of the district's budget concerns noting that there is no magic revenue source that will help alleviate the problems. He said that the average expenditure for administration costs per pupil is for benchmarked districts is \$1,159 and Grosse Pointe's is \$1,158, just below average.</p> <p>Mr. Walsh said that he saw the multi-school (Maire, Defer, Trombly, Pierce) music concert at Pierce and was impressed with the quality of the program as well as the performances in Seussical. He congratulated and thanked Allison Baker of South Mother's Club for her success in organizing and running the auction recently held at South which raised \$35,000 for technology. Mr. Walsh also thanked the Defer PTO for their generous donation of \$56,000 to the Board for the air conditioning project.</p> <p>Trustee Steininger thanked the gym teachers for their presentation and distribution of a book. He also said he is looking forward to beginning the budget work at the next Board meeting.</p> <p>Dr. Klein noted the March is reading month and in the elementary schools particularly, there has been a focus on books particularly those of Dr. Seuss. Our school district recommends that children make reading a part of their regular routine at home.</p> <p>In April the Board will recognize its distinguished volunteers. She noted two volunteers are helping the district get started with the "Kids Against Hunger" project. It is an after-school activity with middle and high school volunteers packing food on the afternoon of April 29th after school in the Brownell gym. Dr. Klein said that the group hopes to package over 10,000 meals to send to families that have special needs in the local area, around the</p>

	<p>state as well as abroad. Costs of the first event have already been covered by a donation from the Grosse Pointe Rotary Club.</p> <p>President Kosinski thanked the numerous teachers and department chairs that presented this evening on the various curriculum changes. She congratulated Mr. Ismail for recently receiving another Michigan Association of School Boards Award. Mrs. Kosinski also noted that Dr. Klein has been recognized by the Michigan Association of School Administrators for a presentation at their annual meeting in Kalamazoo.</p>
ADJOURNMENT	There being no further business, President Kosinski adjourned the meeting at 11:30 p.m.

Board Secretary