

Board Briefs

October 2010

Next Meetings:

Board regular meeting
at 8 p.m., Monday,
November 22, in the
South High School Library,
11 Grosse Pointe Blvd.

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.

To access background
documents for upcoming
agendas, please visit the
board calendar. Past
agendas and background
documents are also
archived online under the
School Board dropdown.
Note that minutes are not
posted until approved at
the next monthly board
meeting.

You can now watch the
school board meetings via
www.gppsstv.phanfare.com/

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Grosse Pointe, MI 48230
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www.gpschools.org

Superintendent's report honor 95 scholars and Community Campus

Dr. Klein, Board President Steininger, and Principals Tim Bearden and Al Diver together honored 95 students who were recognized as National Merit and Commended students, Advanced Placement scholars or National Achievement award winners. Then the new postsecondary Community Campus program for students receiving special education services was celebrated along with the \$220,000 grant from MI Rehabilitation Services that made the program possible. Job and life skills will be the focus of the program as demonstrated by teacher Kathy Dykstra and Ronald, one of the first 11 students in the program. Assistant Superintendent Beels then presented an assessment update on what tests had been taken this year (MEAP, NWEA) and how the data would be used. A residency update was provided and online posting of investigation information was shared again. Viewers were also reminded of the 10/31 deadline to submit Distinguished Employee nominations.

Additional staffing was approved for high school and kindergarten

A 0.2 Full Time Equivalency (FTE) was approved to staff one additional math class at North High School. Five FTE were also added for classroom assistants in kindergarten classrooms with 21 students or more. Those assistants are in addition to 3 teacher FTEs approved in September when larger than projected numbers of kindergarten students arrived to start the school year.

District goals, school improvement plans and a textbook approved

The five annual district goals presented last month were approved as were the School Improvement Plans for each school. These are all posted on www.gpschools.org under the District dropdown menu. The book Hoot was also approved for the 7th grade. Warriors Don't Cry, previewed last month, is under further review. All board members have been provided with a copy of the book and all books under review are available in the Curriculum Office, 389 St. Clair.

Contract tabled until November with GPESPA

The board chose to table the contract with the Grosse Pointe Educational Support Personnel (GPESPA) until after that union has an opportunity to vote on the tentative agreement. The proposed contract includes a 7% contribution to health care and salary increases as well as the formula related to fund equity approved in other contracts. That contract was subsequently approved by the members 10/27. A contract with the Grosse Pointe Plant Association is also anticipated in November.

Regular Business

The monthly financial and health care reports were presented as part of the financial transparency efforts of the district. It was noted that approval of the first General Appropriations Act Amendment (GAAA#1) is on the November agenda. Trustee Gafa requested an electronic check register be provided to save paper and printing costs. Also presented in October was an enrollment update with class size data and staffing allocations. The estimated official count for the 2010-11 school year is 8,379 (70 above projection, just under the 8,417 enrollment last year). We are 123 students above the elementary projection, 5 over middle school projection, and 65 under high school projections.