



Grosse Pointe Board of Education
Minutes of the Regular Meeting of October 24, 2011
Wicking Library, South High School
11 Grosse Pointe Blvd., Grosse Pointe Farms, MI 48236

MEETING MINUTES	President Steininger called the meeting to order at 8:01p.m.
CALL TO ORDER	<p>The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Trustee Minturn.</p> <p>Board members present: Trustees Dindoffer, Gafa, Jakubiec, Minturn, Pangborn, Steininger and Walsh</p> <p>Also Present: Superintendent Klein; Assistant Superintendents Beels, Fenton and Harwood; and Executive Director Warras</p>
SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT	<p>A. National Merit and Commended Students</p> <p>With the assistance of President Steininger, Trustee Pangborn and High School Principals Matt Outlaw and Tim Bearden, Dr. Klein recognized those students who were recognized in the National Merit Scholarship competition.</p> <p><i>National Merit Commended Students in the 2012 National Merit Program:</i> Mary Krusz; Brett Slajus; Nathan Vengalil; Matthew Barnes; Dawei Chen; Brian Hall; Luke Hessburg; Griffin Kiegiel; Charlotte Koelsch; and Benjamin Moss.</p> <p><i>National Merit Semi-Finalists in the 2012 National Merit Scholarship Competition:</i> Tristan Mora; Katherine Murray; Andrew Remenar; and Henry Muller.</p> <p>B. South High School Girls Golf Team State Champions</p> <p>The South High School Girls Golf Team was also recognized for winning their first state championship. Golfers included Claire Boyle; Hannah Buzolits; Ella Pendy; Lily Pendy; and Tenley Shield. Coach Pete Kingsley and Assistant Coach Steve Taflinger were also recognized by Principal Dr. Outlaw and South Athletic Director, Mr. Hawkins, for the teams' outstanding accomplishment.</p> <p>C. Distinguished Employee Recognition, November 28, 2011</p> <p>Dr. Klein noted that the district will be honoring employees at the Board's Fourth Annual Distinguished Employee Recognition Ceremony at the November 28, 2011 Regular Meeting of the Board.</p> <p>D. Recognition of Doctoral Degree for Thomas Harwood</p> <p>Board members joined Dr. Klein in congratulating Dr. Thomas Harwood for completing his Doctorate in Education on October 20, 2011. Dr. Klein noted that it is a pleasure to recognize Dr. Harwood for his accomplishment and the district is very proud of his achievement.</p> <p>Other News</p> <p>President Steininger recognized Trustee Fred Minturn in celebration of his birthday.</p>

PUBLIC COMMENTS ON REGULAR AGENDA ACTION ITEMS	<p>No one came forward to speak at this time.</p>
AGENDA ACTION ITEMS FOR OCTOBER 24, 2011	<p>A. Approval of Human Resources Report for October, 2011</p> <p>The Human Resources Report contained the appointment of one administrative position, two instructional positions and five classroom assistant positions; and the retirement, resignation or leave of absence of one instructional staff, one plant employee; and the non-renewal of one instructional staff member. All appointments are replacements or otherwise within the 2011-12 budget allocations unless noted.</p> <p>Mr. Harwood noted the recommendation of Dr. Cathryn Armstrong to the Parcels Middle School Principal vacancy when Mr. Mullholland retires at the end of January.</p> <p>It was Moved by: Trustee Walsh Supported by: Trustee Jakubiec</p> <p>THAT the Board approve the Human Resources Report as presented.</p> <p>Ayes: Trustees Dindoffer, Gafa, Jakubiec, Minturn, Pangborn, Steininger and Walsh Nays: None Motion carried by a 7 – 0 vote.</p> <p>B. Approval of Minutes of Closed Session of September 20, 2011 and Work Session and Regular Meeting Minutes of September 26, 2011</p> <p>The Board was asked to approve the minutes of the Closed Session of September 20, 2011 and the Work Session and Regular Meeting Minutes of September 26, 2011 as presented.</p> <p>It was Moved by: Trustee Walsh Supported by: Trustee Minturn</p> <p>THAT the Board approve the minutes of Closed Session of September 20, 2011 and the Work Session and Regular Meeting Minutes of September 26, 2011 as presented.</p> <p>Ayes: Trustees Dindoffer, Gafa, Jakubiec, Minturn, Pangborn, Steininger and Walsh Nays: None Motion carried by a 7 – 0 vote.</p> <p>C. Approval of School Improvement Plans</p> <p>As provided in Board Policy 2120, School Improvement, each elementary, middle and high school has developed an updated school improvement plan which reflects student achievement data, sets goals for 2011-12 and provides a structure to improve the quality of education for students in that school.</p> <p>The goals and initiatives described in the school improvement plan summaries comprise important priorities for 2011-12 on which the schools will be concentrating efforts and resources. Specific goals are noted in each school's plan which provides more detail.</p> <p>Taken together, the district and school improvement goals will enable students to achieve a higher level of proficiency in all academic areas, explore other areas of interest and talent as well as prepare for the challenges they will find as they move beyond their enrollment in the</p>

Grosse Pointe Public School System.

Trustee Jakubiec would like an update from each school principal prior to the Christmas break on where they are with their objectives and goals that were established for each of their buildings.

Trustee Walsh said that he would be voting against the School Improvement Plans this evening because he does not feel that they adequately comprehend the many things that he feels are going on in the district. He suggested there be a more comprehensive accountability system.

It was Moved by: Trustee Pangborn

Supported by: Trustee Gafa

THAT the Board approve the School Improvement Plans as presented.

In a roll call vote,

Trustee Minturn, Yes

Trustee Jakubiec, Yes, with the hope of a December update.

Trustee Gafa, Yes

Trustee Pangborn, Yes

Trustee Dindoffer, Yes

Trustee Walsh, No

Trustee Steininger, Yes

Motion carried by a 6 – 1 vote.

D. Approval of Annual District Goals

Board Policy 1110 indicates that the Board of Education shall provide time to assess the progress of the district and set goals for the current school year. The district's Annual Report, required by Public Act 25 is being given on September 26, 2011 and provides data on various measures of student achievement from the past school year and also sets the stage for the development of district goals and school level improvement goals for 2011-12.

Developing goals focuses the district on the most important issues to improve the quality of education for students in our schools. The district has established goals through our Strategic Plan, the school improvement and the accreditation processes, the initiatives of the Education Programs Leadership Council (EPLC), and partnerships with parents and community members.

District goals for 2010-11 were drawn from the current Strategic Plan and other ongoing initiatives. District goals for 2011-2012 will be those identified by the Board of Education in the Strategic Plan currently under development with the facilitation of Banach and Banach.

Due to the Board's continued work on the Strategic Plan, Dr. Klein recommended that the Board table this item until the Strategic Plan is completed which will establish goals for the district for Board approval.

It was Moved by: Trustee Dindoffer

Supported by: Trustee Minturn

THAT the Board table the Annual District Goals at this time pending completion of the Strategic Plan.

Ayes: Trustees Dindoffer, Gafa, Jakubiec, Minturn, Pangborn, Steininger and Walsh

Nays: None

Motion carried by a 7 – 0 vote.

	<p>E. Approval of 6th Grade Novel</p> <p>1. <u>Peak</u> by Roland Smith, 6th Grade and 6th Grade Honors Course</p> <p>This book for 6th graders is described as an excellent book to use at the beginning of sixth grade to introduce/reinforce basic literary elements of a novel. The ending has a meaningful lesson and provides a good writing opportunity for students. It has been recommended by a committee of teachers and parents. <u>Peak</u> has met the requirements of teaching the adventure genre and introduces students to the elements of a plot, exposition, rising action, climax, falling action and resolution.</p> <p>It was Moved by: Trustee Walsh Supported by: Trustee Gafa</p> <p>THAT the Board approve the novel, <u>Peak</u> for 6th Grade and 6th Grade Honors Courses.</p> <p>Ayes: Trustees Dindoffer, Gafa, Jakubiec, Minturn, Pangborn, Steininger and Walsh Nays: None Motion carried by a 7 – 0 vote.</p> <p>F. Approval of Resolution to Honor Distinguished Employees</p> <p>During the 2008-09 school year, The Grosse Pointe Board of Education established the Distinguished Employee Service Awards Program to recognize distinguished service by employees in various programs and activities sponsored by the public schools. Board-level recognition is intended to reward those employees who have initiated a new program, service, or activity and/or who have served the district above and beyond their daily employee responsibilities.</p> <p>It was Moved by: Trustee Gafa Supported by: Trustee Pangborn</p> <p>THAT the Board approve Resolution to Honor Distinguished Employees.</p> <p>In a layered motion, It was Moved by: Trustee Dindoffer Supported by: Trustee Minturn</p> <p>THAT the Board table this motion until the November regular meeting when the names of the Distinguished Employees can be approved with the resolution.</p> <p>Ayes: Trustees Dindoffer, Gafa, Jakubiec, Minturn, Pangborn, Steininger and Walsh Nays: None Motion carried by a 7 – 0 vote.</p>
<p>ACTION ITEMS FOR NOVEMBER 28, 2011</p>	<p>A. Approval of Human Resources Report for November, 2011</p> <p>This information will be available to the Board prior to the November, 2011 meeting.</p> <p>B. Approval of Minutes for October, 2011</p> <p>Minutes of the October 24, 2011 Work Session and Regular Meetings will be available prior to</p>

the next regular meeting.

C. Approval of Contract for Human Resources Administrator

As of January 1, 2012, the position of Assistant Superintendent of Human Resources and Labor Relations will be vacant due to the transition of Thomas Harwood to the position of Superintendent of Schools. The nature and scope of the professional training and skills necessary to fill this position requires that the candidate be familiar with the complexities associated with collective bargaining contracts, recent school reform and tenure law changes, teacher and administrative evaluation requirements, and staffing/budgetary factors. As the district proceeds into the final year (2012-2013) of the collective bargaining agreements for all groups, it is imperative that the individual in the role of Assistant Superintendent of Human Resources and Labor Relations have a clear understanding of labor relations, contractual language requirements, legal restrictions, and interpretation of the index salary compensation formula.

The Board of Education will be asked to approve the contract for the Human Resources administrator with Larry Lobert and Associates as presented for the period of January 4, 2012 until June 30, 2013 for providing duties and responsibilities associated with the position of Assistant Superintendent of Human Resources and Labor Relations for the Grosse Pointe Public School System.

Trustee Jakubiec asked that Mr. Lobert provide a two or three-page description on his viewpoint of teacher evaluations to be shared with the Board prior to the regular November Board meeting.

Trustee Minturn asked if this position was a full time replacement for Dr. Harwood's job or just a temporary replacement until a permanent employee can be hired. Dr. Harwood replied that it was a temporary replacement until June 30, 2013. Mr. Minturn stated that in his mind, this would be an opportunity to bring in "new blood" to the district instead of returning retired employees.

Trustee Dindoffer said that she would like district counsel, Mark McInerney, to review the contract for this position before the Board votes on the item.

Trustee Walsh agreed with Mr. Minturn noting that, he too, liked Larry Lobert, but stated that he would not be supporting the proposal for Mr. Lobert as the temporary replacement for Dr. Harwood's position. He also said that working with Mr. Lobert on a consulting basis would be beneficial, but not in the role of the full time Human Resource position.

President Steininger agreed that the district would be better served with the staffing of a full-time, permanent employee. Using Mr. Lobert's services as a consultant would be a more viable solution to the immediate need, rather than as a long-term contract employee.

D. Approval of G.A.A. A. #1

Mr. Fenton said that his department was in the process of finalizing the final draft of the information received from the auditors and would be comparing that with the district's Budget Model Utility before a final G.A.A.A. #1 is available. The G.A.A.A. #1 will tie into the Budget Model Utility and will show the final staffing changes that occurred over the summer, rehiring of secretaries, teachers, and classroom assistants. Staffing numbers are complete, adjustments will be made to the final budget report and submitted for a vote at the Board next's meeting. The auditors will be meeting with Mr. Fenton and Board Treasurer Brendan Walsh to

	<p>review the final numbers.</p> <p>Trustee Walsh noted that the audit report does not need Board approval, but rather, Board review.</p> <p>E. Approval of District Financial Audit Report</p> <p>The Financial Audit Report will be presented at the Board November meeting for review. Dr. Klein note that representatives will attend the Board meeting to answer any questions and give a final report on Federal grants received.</p>
<p>INFORMATION AND DISCUSSION</p>	<p>A. Enrollment Update and Class Size/Staff Allocation Report</p> <p>Mr. Fenton gave a report on the enrollment figures as of October 24, 2011. The district currently has 8,410 students, 6 students higher than the 2011 spring count and 66 students higher than projections. The district continues to enroll students loving into the district.</p> <p>B. Monthly Financial Report</p> <p>Mr. Fenton noted that the financial report provided reflects the actual budget numbers. The encumbrances are where he thought they would be at this time and match the Budget Model Utility.</p> <p>C. Health Care Report</p> <p>Mr. Harwood noted that two reports were distributed to Board members. He said that health care calculations are below projection. Next month's report will show the employee contributions that began to occur in September, 2011 averaging a little over 10%. Medical and prescription expenses are down from last year.</p> <p>D. Field Trips for 2011-12</p> <p>Ms. Beels provided information on overnight field trips for the 2011-12 school year of an academic or extra-curricular nature only, noting that the report does not reflect athletic competitions. She highlighted the South Choir trip from February 17-25, 2012 and the North Choir trip from April 9-13, 2012.</p> <p>E. Calendar of Assessment Activities</p> <p>Mr. Warras provided an update on the comprehensive assessment activity at all levels with a chart displaying grade and date of assessment.</p> <p>Students in grades 1-8 are tested in reading, writing and mathematics with two assessments:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Northwest Evaluation Program (NWEA), a nationally normed assessment in reading and mathematics taken by students several times yearly and administered on the computer • Grosse Pointe Writing Assessment (GPWA), a locally derived assessment used for the past 40 years to assess student writing. <p>In addition, in grades 3-9 students take the state Michigan Education Assessment Program (MEAP) which consists of mathematics and reading tests in grades 3-8, a writing assessment in grades 4 and 7, science tests in grades 5 and 8 and social studies in grade 9.</p> <p>The state also requires that middle school students take a computer literacy test to demonstrate</p>

	<p>computer competency before entry into high school.</p> <p>High school juniors take the Michigan Merit Exam in the spring, which is comprised of the ACT plus Writing college entrance examination, Work Keys job skills assessments and Michigan assessments in mathematics, science and social studies. For the first time this year juniors will be provided the opportunity through Princeton Review to take a practice ACT test in November at no charge. Grade 9 students will take the PLAN assessment in the spring, which replicates the format of the ACT and provides valuable information for students, staff and parents.</p> <p>A comprehensive, longitudinal report listing all required district assessments is provided to families of students in grades 1-8 in the late fall of each year. Parents of high school students receive the results of all the assessments mentioned earlier.</p>
FUTURE MEETINGS	<p>President Steininger then announced that there will be a Work Session at 6:30 p.m. and a Regular Meeting of the Board at 8 p.m. on Monday, November 28, 2011 in the South Wicking Library.</p>
PUBLIC COMMENTS ON NON-ACTION ITEMS	<p>George McMullen, Grosse Pointe Woods, shared his thoughts about the proposed contract for a new Human Resource administrator.</p> <p>Lois Valente, Grosse Pointe Park, spoke as an observer commenting positively on the work session discussion of the Strategic Plan.</p> <p>Diane Karabetsos, Grosse Pointe Woods, commented on the National Merit Scholars recognized this evening, the information to be shared at the next board meeting on the district's Financial Audit Report and room vacancies at North High School.</p>
OTHER COMMENTS FROM BOARD AND SUPERINTENDENT	<p>Trustee Minturn addressed Mrs. Karabetsos comments about the room vacancies at North. He also congratulated the academic award winners honored this evening as well as the South girls golf team.</p> <p>Trustee Gafa commented on the dangers of comparing schools and school enrollment, including vacancies of classrooms in schools. She welcomed Dr. Armstrong to the district, congratulated the girls golf team from South High School and Dr. Harwood on receiving his doctorate.</p> <p>Trustee Jakubiec echoed other Board members' congratulations to the evening's scholars, the new principal at Parcels and Mr. Harwood. He encouraged everyone to vote in the election on November 8, 2011.</p> <p>Trustee Walsh joined fellow Board members in congratulated the student scholars, Dr. Armstrong, Dr. Harwood and the Family Center for its presentation of "Race to Nowhere."</p> <p>Trustee Pangborn congratulated Dr. Armstrong, the Merit Scholarship winners and Tom Harwood on receiving his doctorate. She noted the upcoming Halloween parades in all of the elementary schools and wished everyone a safe and Happy Halloween.</p> <p>Trustee Dindoffer congratulated the National Merit Scholars, the South girls golf team championship and Dr. Harwood on their accomplishments.</p> <p>Dr. Klein gave a brief update on the House and Senate hearings on SB 624 as legislators continue to meet on issues related to school districts. She reminded the district about the Distinguished Employee Awards ceremony to be held next month. The Grosse Pointe South</p>

	<p>High School Athletic Department will host “playoff football” on Friday, October 28th at 7 p.m.</p> <p>The Grosse Pointe Foundation for Public Education and their cohort of volunteers and donors have now raised more than \$1.6 million for all their efforts in which the district is a recipient. Dr. Klein thanked the foundation and its donors.</p> <p>The Grosse Pointe Academy is hosting a workshop on Internet Safety and Cyber Bullying at South High School on Wednesday, November 16, 2011.</p> <p>Dr. Klein noted that the SERVE Project is a resource center for the district’s student groups to access information about service opportunities available to students in the metro area. She thanked the many volunteers that helped to host College Night and congratulated the students recognized for their accomplishments as National Merit Commended scholars and semi-finalists.</p> <p>President Steininger congratulated the National Merit Scholars; South girls golf team; Tom Harwood for receiving his doctorate degree; and Dr. Cathryn Armstrong on her new role as the Parcels Middle School Principal beginning in January, 2012. He encouraged everyone to vote on November 8th for the candidate of their choice, noting that all candidates are against the Governor’s School of Choice legislation.</p> <p>Mr. Steininger also addressed the room capacity comments brought forward earlier in the meeting and their impact on the decision the administrators will make in the future. He noted the South football game on Friday, October 28 at 7 pm.; the South Pops and Pastries event on Friday; and the North Pops and Pastries the following Saturday, on November 5. All are welcome and encouraged to attend.</p>
ADJOURNMENT	There being no further business, President Steininger adjourned the meeting at 9:28 p.m.

Board Secretary