



**Grosse Pointe Board of Education
Minutes of the Regular Meeting of February 23, 2015
Multipurpose Room, Brownell Middle School
260 Chalfonte, Grosse Pointe Farms, MI 48236**

MEETING MINUTES

I. CALL TO ORDER

President Gafa called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

[\(click here to view meeting video\)](#)

Board members present: Trustees Gafa, Ismail, Pangborn, Roeske, Valente and Weertz
Trustee Summerfield arrived at 7:15 p.m.

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Trustee Weertz.

Also Present: Superintendent Harwood; Deputy Superintendents Dean and Fenton

II. APPROVAL OF THE BOARD AGENDA FOR FEBRUARY 23, 2015

It was Moved by: Trustee Weertz

Supported by: Trustee Roeske

THAT the revised Board Agenda for February 23, 2015 be approved as presented.

Ayes: Trustees Gafa, Ismail, Pangborn, Roeske, Summerfield, Valente and Weertz
Trustee Summerfield was not in attendance at the time of this vote.

Nays: None

Motion carried by a 6 – 0 vote.

III. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

A. Legislative News

Superintendent Harwood said that the Governor's proposal for the state budget would be to recommend a \$75 per pupil increase across the board to all districts and \$20 per pupil in Best Practices. This would equal a \$95 increase per pupil. Dr. Harwood also shared information from Lansing on the Safe Roads proposal; Tax Policy; Critical Shortage Bill; snow days for schools districts; and teacher and administrative evaluation changes and requirements for next year.

B. Good News Items

Superintendent Harwood shared the good news about the South choir winning the FindlayFest, a national show choir competition in Findlay, Ohio.

Dr. Harwood announced College Night on Thursday, March 5th at 6 p.m. at Grosse Pointe South High School for all parents from both high schools interested in attending.

IV. PUBLIC COMMENTS ON AGENDA ACTION ITEMS FOR FEBRUARY 23, 2015

There were no comments at this time.

V. AGENDA ACTION ITEMS FOR FEBRUARY 23, 2015

A. Approval of Human Resources Report for February 23, 2015

It was Moved by: Trustee Pangborn **Supported by:** Trustee Roeske

THAT the Board approve the Human Resources Report for February 23, 2015 as presented.

Ayes: Trustees Gafa, Ismail, Pangborn, Roeske, Summerfield, Valente and Weertz

Nays: None

Motion carried by a 7 – 0 vote.

B. Approval of Regular Meeting Minutes of February 9, 2015

It was Moved by: Trustee Pangborn **Supported by:** Trustee Weertz

THAT the Board approve the Regular Meeting Minutes of February 9, 2015 as presented.

Ayes: Trustees Gafa, Ismail, Pangborn, Roeske, Summerfield, Valente and Weertz

Nays: None

Motion carried by a 7 – 0 vote.

C. Approval of Reinstatement Panel

It was Moved by: Trustee Roeske **Supported by:** Trustee Summerfield

THAT the Board approve the Reinstatement Panel as presented.

Ayes: Trustees Gafa, Ismail, Pangborn, Roeske, Summerfield, Valente and Weertz

Nays: None

Motion carried by a 7 – 0 vote.

D. Approval of Technology Bids

1. Monteith Wiring

It was Moved by: Trustee Weertz **Supported by:** Trustee Roeske

THAT the Board approve the contract for the Monteith Wiring Bid to Complete Interactive Technologies, Inc. at an estimated cost of \$222,454 as presented.

Ayes: Trustees Gafa, Ismail, Pangborn, Roeske, Summerfield, Valente and Weertz

Nays: None

Motion carried by a 7 – 0 vote.

2. South Wiring

It was Moved by: Trustee Roeske **Supported by:** Trustee Valente

THAT the Board approve the contract for the South Wiring Bid to Complete Interactive Technologies, Inc. for \$732,347 as presented.

Ayes: Trustees Gafa, Ismail, Pangborn, Roeske, Summerfield, Valente and Weertz

Nays: None

Motion carried by a 7 – 0 vote.

3. South Electronics

It was Moved by: Trustee Pangborn

Supported by: Trustee Roeske

THAT the Board approve the contract with NeTech for the Network Infrastructure System at South High School at a cost of \$274,857.89 as presented.

If the USF approves the Grosse Pointe Public School System for Category 2 funding this fiscal year, the estimated amount of E-rate reimbursement will be \$109,943.

Ayes: Trustees Gafa, Ismail, Pangborn, Roeske, Summerfield, Valente and Weertz

Nays: None

Motion carried by a 7 – 0 vote.

4. Cell Phones

It was Moved by: Trustee Weertz

Supported by: Trustee Pangborn

THAT the Board approve the contract with Verizon for the Cell Phone Bid for 2015-2016 at an estimated cost of \$53,646.12 per year for a contract term of one year with a net amount of \$32,187.57 after E-rate reimbursement.

Ayes: Trustees Gafa, Ismail, Pangborn, Roeske, Summerfield, Valente and Weertz

Nays: None

Motion carried by a 7 – 0 vote.

E. Approval of District Goals for 2015-2016

The three proposed District Goals for the 2015-2016 school year were:

1. Develop and implement a comprehensive strategic plan during the 2015-2016 school year.
2. Review, align and evaluate the district curriculum.
3. Enhance professional growth and instructional effectiveness through research based strategies.

It was Moved by: Trustee Summerfield

Supported by: Trustee Pangborn

THAT the Board approve the District Goals for 2015-2016 as presented.

Ayes: Trustees Gafa, Ismail, Pangborn, Roeske, Summerfield, Valente and Weertz

Nays: None

Motion carried by a 7 – 0 vote.

VI. AGENDA ACTION ITEMS FOR MARCH 23, 2015

- A. Approval of Human Resources Report for March 23, 2015**
- B. Approval of Regular Meeting Minutes of March 16, 2015**
- C. Approval of Resolution Recognizing Distinguished Volunteers**

VII. INFORMATION AND DISCUSSION

A. Monthly Financial Report/Health Care Report

Dr. Dean shared an update on the health care report noting that December was a low cost month for the district. He shared that a health care renewal rate will be reviewed with Brown and Brown next week.

Mr. Fenton said that the monthly financial reports show consistency as expected with nothing new to report. He added that after the meeting with Brown and Brown this week, however, there will be changes made to the budget model utility report which will add a General Appropriations Amendment Act #2 (G.A.A.A. #2) to the

March, 2015 agenda.

B. Enrollment Update

Mr. Fenton reported that there are decreases in the student population at every level. He noted 122 student decrease at the elementary level, 68 student decrease at the middle school level, and less than 40 student decrease at the high school level. With an anticipated 150 student decrease for next year, the district can expect about \$1.5 million less overall. He said that central administration will be watching enrollment changes closely as it impacts the budget for next year.

C. Update on Personal Curriculum Changes

Dr. Dean, Mrs. Walsh-Sahutske and Mrs. Teolis presented a Personal Curriculum overview and changes to the Board. She said that the Personal Curriculum is a process to modify specific high school credit requirements and/or content expectations based on the individual learning needs of a student. It is designed to serve students who want to accelerate or go beyond the Michigan Merit Curriculum (MMC) and district requirements and students who need to individualize learning requirements to meet the MMC and district graduation requirements. Mrs. Bur shared the goals and plans of the Personal Curriculum Development team as well as the plans for general education students and students with an individualized educational plan.

D. Superintendent Search Update

Mr. Lobert from the Superintendent Search Firm, School Exec Connect, provided the Board with an update on the superintendent search. He said that his firm welcomes the inquiries from the Board and the community and understands the concerns and requests. He assured the Board that everything is under control and is moving in a positive, aggressive timeline. He highlighted the ads that are already in publications, the e-blast notification of the superintendent vacancy to other communities, and the ongoing conversations with other consultants.

Board members had an opportunity to ask questions of Mr. Lobert.

1. Board Liaison Authority

Trustee Ismail addressed the issue of receiving information on the superintendent search process in a more timely manner. By having to send questions to the Board President first, he said that it hinders the time frame by which the Board receives the answers and/or information being processed. Information needs to be disseminated to Board members before it is posted on the website. Mr. Lobert reminded the Board about the opportunity afforded every community member by using the district's website survey.

VIII. FUTURE MEETINGS

- A. Board Policy Committee Meeting, February 24, 2015, 6:00 p.m., Board Office, 389 St. Clair
- B. Regular Meeting of the Board, Monday, March 16, 2015, 7:00 p.m., Brownell Multipurpose Room
- C. Regular Meeting of the Board, Monday, March 23, 2015, 7:00 p.m., Brownell Multipurpose Room

IX. PUBLIC COMMENTS ON NON-ACTION ITEMS

Philip Moe, Grosse Pointe, shared his thoughts about the superintendent search and the direction the district is going in regarding special education services saying that they should complement each other.

Jennifer Munson, Grosse Pointe Park, also shared her thoughts about the superintendent search. She also thanked Dr. Dean, Mrs. Walsh-Sahutske and Mrs. Theolis for their work with the Personal Curriculum changes.

George McMullen, Grosse Pointe Woods, spoke regarding the Poupard Chili-Mac Cook-Off on Friday, February 27th at 6:00 – 8:30 p.m. He also addressed the superintendent search and thanked Mr. Lobert for the great presentation.

X. OTHER COMMENTS FROM BOARD AND SUPERINTENDENT

Trustee Pangborn urged the community to read the editorial in the *Grosse Pointe News* this week by Joe Warner regarding Little League, the World Series and about people doing the right thing. She feels that it would be beneficial for everyone to read.

Trustee Ismail had no comment.

Trustee Valente thanked everyone who came this evening to watch and speak at the Board meeting on the coldest days of the year. She thanked Dr. Dean, Mrs. Walsh Sahutske and Mrs. Teolis for their work on the Personal Curriculum changes.

Trustee Weertz had no comment

Trustee Summerfield had no comment.

Trustee Roeske reminded the community that the North community is presenting, "Catch Me If You Can" on March 5, 6, and 7, 2015.

Superintendent Harwood echoed comments of others to thank the Personal Curriculum Committee for their hard work. He said it has been a long time coming, is a complicated procedure, and the committee will continue to meet to work out additional changes and details.

President Gafa thanked Mr. Woloszyn and Mr. Brune for their technology presentation. She also noted Grosse Pointe North's performance of "Catch Me If You Can" on the 5th 6th and 7th of March.

Trustee Gafa congratulated the Grosse Pointe South Choir on placing so well in a nationally well-known Show Choir.

The Family Center has a program about drugs and alcohol and what parents and professionals need to know on February 26, 2015 at 6:45 p.m. at Grosse Pointe Memorial Church.

XI. ADJOURNMENT

President Gafa adjourned the meeting at 9:58 p.m.

Margaret Weertz, Board Secretary