



V. B.

**Grosse Pointe Board of Education
Minutes of the Closed and Special Open Meeting of April 13, 2015
Board Room Administration Building
389 St. Clair, Grosse Pointe, MI 48230**

MEETING MINUTES

I. CALL TO ORDER

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

Board members present: Trustees Gafa, Ismail, Pangborn, Roeske, Summerfield, Valente and Weertz

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Trustee Ismail.

Also Present: Co-Acting Superintendents Dean and Fenton; School Exec Connect, Dave Peterson and Larry Lobert; Legal Counsel, Mark McInerney

II. APPROVAL OF CLOSED SESSION AGENDA FOR APRIL 13, 2015

It was Moved by: Trustee Weertz

Supported by: Trustee Roeske

THAT the Closed Session Agenda for Monday, April 13, 2015 be approved as presented.

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

Nays: None

Motion carried by a 7 – 0 vote.

III. MOTION TO MOVE INTO CLOSED SESSION TO RECEIVE SLATE OF CANDIDATES FROM SCHOOL EXEC CONNECT at 7:00 P.M.

It was Moved by: Trustee Weertz

Supported by: Trustee Ismail

THAT the Board move into Closed Session to receive the slate of candidates from School Exec Connect.

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

Nays: None

Motion carried by a 7 – 0 vote.

IV. MOTION TO RETURN TO OPEN SESSION at 8:15 P.M.

It was Moved by: Trustee Roeske

Supported by: Trustee Pangborn

THAT the Board return to Open Session at 8:15 p.m.

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

Nays: None

Motion carried by a 7 – 0 vote.

V. APPROVAL OF REGULAR AGENDA FOR APRIL 13, 2015

It was Moved by: Trustee Roeske

Supported by: Trustee Ismail

THAT the Board approve the Regular Agenda for April 13, 2015 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 APRIL 13, 2015

A. Approval of Slate of Superintendent Candidates

It was Moved by: Trustee Roeske

Supported by: Trustee Weertz

THAT the Slate of Candidates presented to the Board in Closed Session be approved in open session as presented: Steven Matthews, Gary Niehaus and Matthew Wandrie.

The Board had an opportunity to ask Mr. Peterson and Mr. Lobert questions about the candidates. Board members thanked Mr. Peterson and Mr. Lobert for their work on the search noting the great job they did in their search.

In a roll call to approve the slate of candidates as presented,

Trustee Ismail, No

Trustee Valente, No

Trustee Weertz, Yes

Trustee Roeske, Yes

Trustee Summerfield, Yes

Trustee Pangborn, No

Trustee Gafa, Yes

Motion to approve the Slate of Candidates carried by a 4 – 3 vote.

B. Approval of Interview Groups for Superintendent Search

It was Moved by: Trustee Valente

Supported by: Trustee Summerfield

THAT the schedule and groups listed for interview committees on April 28 and 29, 2015 be approved as presented.

Board members had an opportunity to share their thoughts and present input. President Gafa amended the April 20, 2015 agenda at this time from 6:00 p.m. to 5:30 p.m.

After revisions were made, in a roll call vote,

Trustee Ismail, No

Trustee Valente, Yes

Trustee Weertz, Yes

Trustee Pangborn, No

Trustee Roeske, Yes

Trustee Summerfield, Yes

Trustee Gafa, Yes

Motion to approve the Interview Groups for the Superintendent Search with revisions carried by a 5 – 2 vote.

VII. FUTURE MEETINGS

A. Open Meeting of the Board, April 20, 2015, 5:30 p.m., South High School Auditorium

B. Open Meeting of the Board, April 21, 2015, 6:00 p.m., South High School Auditorium

C. Regular Meeting of the Board, April 27, 2015, 7:00 p.m., Brownell Multipurpose Room

VIII. PUBLIC COMMENTS ON BOARD AGENDA ACTION ITEMS

Diane Karabetsos, Grosse Pointe Woods, shared her thoughts regarding emails on the district website and the decision to direct Dr. Dean and Mr. Fenton as Co-Acting Superintendents.

Helen Srebernak, Grosse Pointe Park, spoke regarding Mrs. Pangborn's comments about school PTO groups. She noted that PTO's support the Grosse Pointe Public School System in everything that they do including working hard to get district millages passed in the community.

George McMullen, Grosse Pointe Woods, congratulated the work of School Exec Connect on their progress with the Superintendent Search and the Board's work at following the process.

IX. OTHER COMMENTS FROM BOARD MEMBERS

Trustee Ismail addressed the issue of acting superintendent for the district until a new superintendent begins in July, 2015 as brought up by a speaker this evening. He said that the issue was not brought into an open session for a vote. He thanked the Board committee who worked hard to put the interview groups together. He also thanked Mr. Peterson and Mr. Lobert for their work on the superintendent search.

Trustee Valente addressed the second speaker's comments noting that at one time she was part of the PTO with Mrs. Srebernak and that PTO's are a wonderful emotional support group who support the efforts of the schools. She added that she voted against moving the slate of candidates forward this evening, but out of respect for the candidates did not want to specify which candidate she did not want to move forward at this time.

Trustee Weertz thanked School Exec Connect for their work on the superintendent search noting she was pleased with their final slate presented.

Trustee Pangborn thanked the Board committee that selected the groups to interview the final two candidates, but does not agree with the final number of participants in some of the groups. She also noted that she did not intend to show any disrespect to the PTO Council. She shared that when she was part of the PTO they did share a treasurer's report and copies of bank statements.

Trustee Roeske thanked Mr. Peterson and Mr. Lobert for their hard work on the superintendent search. He asked if candidates' resumes could be posted on the district website. He thanked all of the volunteers who are part of the PTOs for the work they do supporting the schools.

Trustee Summerfield said that the process for the superintendent search is moving along well. He thanked Trustees Valente and Weertz for their work in coordinating the final interview groups. He thanked all Board members for their joint efforts to move the process along with the leading of School Exec Connect.

Dr. Dean and Mr. Fenton had no comment.

President Gafa also thanked Mr. Peterson and Mr. Lobert for the work on the superintendent search noting that the Board will move to the next phase and interview the candidates and select the best fit for the district. She thanked Trustees Valente, Weertz and Summerfield for the work in constructing the groups for the upcoming interviews. She addressed the issue of the selection of co-acting superintendents and asked Board members to let it go and move on.

President Gafa thanked the PTO Councils across the district for the hard work they do to provide continuing support to the schools. She also thanked all volunteers who volunteer in school buildings and for all they do for the students in the district.

X. ADJOURNMENT

President Gafa adjourned the meeting at 9:26 p.m.

Margaret Weertz, Board Secretary