



Grosse Pointe Board of Education
Minutes of the Regular Meeting of October 29, 2012
Multi-Purpose 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.

Board members present: Trustees Dindoffer, Gafa, Jakubiec, Pangborn, Roeske, Valente and Walsh

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Girl Scout Group 427 from Monteith Elementary School.

Also Present: Superintendent Harwood; Deputy Superintendents Dean and Fenton; Curriculum Director Bur

II. APPROVAL OF BOARD AGENDA FOR OCTOBER 29, 2012

It was Moved by: Trustee Roeske

Supported by: Trustee Pangborn

THAT the Board Agenda for Monday, October 29, 2012 be adopted as presented.

Ayes: Trustees Dindoffer, Gafa, Jakubiec, Pangborn, Roeske, Valente and Walsh

Nays: None

Motion carried by a 7 – 0 vote.

III. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

A. National Merit Commended Students and Semi Finalists

Superintendent Harwood shared information about students recognized as National Merit and Commended Students based on their performance of the PSAT that they take in the fall. National Merit Scholar Awards are based on their scores and students are qualified as being in the top percentage of performers on that test. There are 1.5 million students in the nation that take the test and 50,000 of those students that have been recognized on their high performance. The student recognized from North High School as Commended is Courtney Carroll; as semi-finalists, Noah Cherry, Kamala Kanneganti and Jordan Radke. Commended students from South High School are Annalise Bissa, Matthew Geist and Casey Wizner. South's semi-finalists are Peter Fox, Claire Morrison, Devon Pratt, John Fordon and Lauren Phillips.

B. Good News Items

1. Daniel Quinn, Grosse Pointe North – Emerging Leader Recognition by Phi Delta Kappan International

Daniel Quinn, who teaches economics and social studies to high school students at Grosse Pointe North has been recognized as an Emerging Leader by the Phi Delta Kappan International, a global association of education professionals.

2. Grosse Pointe Rotary

Superintendent Harwood also recognized and welcomed Rotary members who provided financial support to the district. They raised \$8,000 and funds went to the athletic departments of five high schools including Grosse Pointe's North and South. Each received a check for \$1,720.

3. Distinguished Employee Recognition, November 26, 2012

Superintendent noted that employees selected to receive the District's Distinguished Employee Recognition Awards will be held at the Board's regular meeting on Monday, November 26, 2012 in the Brownell Multi-Purpose Room.

4. Grosse Pointe Schools' Open House on November 11, 2012

Dr. Harwood shared that under the direction of Dr. Dean, the Grosse Pointe Public School System will hold an Open House on Sunday, November 11, 2012 from 1 – 3 p.m. in all school buildings.

IV. PUBLIC COMMENTS ON AGENDA ACTION ITEMS

No one came forward to speak at this time.

V. AGENDA ACTION ITEMS FOR OCTOBER 29, 2012

A. Approval of Human Resources Report for October, 2012

The Human Resources Report was presented by Dr. Dean.

It was Moved by: Trustee Pangborn

Supported by: Trustee Valente

THAT the Board approve the Human Resources Report as presented.

Ayes: Trustees Dindoffer, Gafa, Jakubiec, Pangborn, Roeske, Valente and Walsh

Nays: None

Motion carried by a 7 – 0 vote.

B. Approval of Closed Session Minutes of September 17, 2012, Work Session Minutes of September 17, 2012, Regular Meeting Minutes of September 24, 2012 and Policy Committee Minutes of October 11, 2012

The minutes of the Closed Session of September 17, 2012, Work Session of September 17, 2012, Regular Meeting of September 24, 2012 and Policy Committee of October 11, 2012 were presented for approval as presented.

It was Moved by: Trustee Walsh

Supported by: Trustee Pangborn

THAT the Board approve the Minutes of the September Board Meetings and October 11, 2012 Policy Committee Meeting as presented.

Ayes: Trustees Dindoffer, Gafa, Jakubiec, Pangborn, Roeske, Valente and Walsh

Nays: None

Motion carried by a 7 – 0 vote.

C. Approval of Lease Agreement with GPEA for Building Space

Mr. Fenton provided information on the Lease Agreement with the GPEA for office space at Barnes. A lease was provided to the Board which has been reviewed by Mark McInerney of Clark Hill.

The rent for the lease for the GPEA is based on \$18.00 per square foot per month. This lease is for eight months commencing November 1, 2012 and will expire in June 2013.

It was Moved by: Trustee Walsh
Supported by: Trustee Roeske

THAT the Board approve the Lease Agreement with the GPEA for Office Space at Barnes.

Ayes: Trustees Dindoffer, Gafa, Jakubiec, Pangborn, Roeske, Valente and Walsh

Nays: None

Motion carried by a 7 – 0 vote.

D. Approval of Naviance Contract Proposal

The recommendation of the administration was to move to software provided by Naviance, which will provide the needed functionality and also fulfill the state mandated submission requirements for student transcripts. The initial cost of the software for three years is \$22,346.00. There will be an ongoing cost for the software for subsequent years which is based on student enrollment numbers.

It was Moved by: Trustee Dindoffer

Supported by: Trustee Pangborn

THAT the Board approve the Naviance Contract Proposal

Ayes: Trustees Dindoffer, Gafa, Jakubiec, Pangborn, Roeske, Valente and Walsh

Nays: None

Motion carried by a 7 – 0 vote.

E. Approval of Resolution to Honor Distinguished Employees

The district is receiving nominations for employees who are being nominated for their service to the district. Ms. Valente and Mrs. Dindoffer will then review the nominations and recommend employees to the Board for recognition at the Board's November meeting.

It was Moved by: Trustee Roeske

Supported by: Trustee Pangborn

THAT the Board adopt the resolution provided honoring the recipients of the Fourth Annual Distinguished Employee Service Awards.

Ayes: Trustees Dindoffer, Gafa, Jakubiec, Pangborn, Roeske, Valente and Walsh

Nays: None

Motion carried by a 7 – 0 vote.

VI. AGENDA ACTION ITEMS FOR NOVEMBER 26, 2012

A. Approval of Human Resources Report for November, 2012

The Human Resources Report for November, 2012 will be provided prior to the November regular meeting.

B. Approval of Work Session and Regular Meeting Minutes of October, 2012

The Meeting Minutes for October, 2012 will be available prior to the next regular meeting of the Board.

C. Approval of G.A.A.A. #1

Mr. Fenton said that the General Appropriation Amendment Act #1 will be provided to the Board in November and will include adjustments from the fund equity levels, enrollment and tax adjustments.

D. Approval of Technology Contract for E-Rate Services

Dr. Harwood noted that this item would be available prior to the next regular meeting of the Board in November.

E. Approval of Revised Policy 1240

Trustee Walsh said that recommendations were received from Board members to review Policy 1240, Evaluation of Superintendent driven by recent changes in state laws and Board governance.

F. Approval of Lease with Full Circle Foundation, Inc.

The Full Circle Foundation, Inc. (FCF) is a non-profit foundation that supports the Full Circle Upscale Resale store. Board members of the Foundation are Karl Kratz, Bill Mestdagh and Mary Fodell. FCF has recently purchased a building at Mack Avenue and Cadieux in Grosse Pointe Park which was the former location for Grosse Pointe Alarm and will be the new home for the resale store. The District would like to lease space from the Full Circle Foundation. Currently, the Community Classroom serves approximately 15 students and would have the potential to double the number of students served. The lease, reviewed by district counsel, Mr. McInerney, would be for seven months, ending June 30, 2013. The monthly rental is \$1,500 and is covered under Act 18 reimbursements.

It was Moved by: Trustee Valente

Supported by: Trustee Walsh

THAT the Board of Education approve the lease with Full Circle Foundation Inc. for seven months, ending June 30, 2013 with a monthly rental of \$1,500.

In a roll call vote,

Trustee Dindoffer, Yes

Trustee Jakubiec, Yes

Trustee Pangborn, Yes

Trustee Roeske, Yes

Trustee Walsh, Yes

Trustee Valente, Yes

Trustee Gafa, Yes

Nays: None

Motion carried by a 7 – 0 vote.

VII. INFORMATION AND DISCUSSION

A. Monthly Financial Report/Health Care Report

Mr. Fenton said that the reports provided were on target and adjustments will be made next month after reviewing the blended enrollment and audit findings.

Trustee Roeske asked about the ramp at Parcels and the greenhouse at South. Mr. Fenton replied that both are behind schedule slightly. The windows are being delivered within the next four weeks for the greenhouse and the Parcels ramp will be finished by the end of the month.

Trustee Dindoffer suggested the Board set aside dedicated time to discuss the audit findings and financial situation and how they impact the staff contracts.

Dr. Dean said the health report numbers are being worked on as they were slightly higher than anticipated due to issues with Blue Cross/Blue Shield doubling up on more than one month which raised anticipated costs in their reports. That report will be provided with updated financial numbers prior to next month's meeting.

B. Enrollment Update

Mr. Fenton noted that the official count date for the 2012-13 school year was 8,342 FTE's. This count is 84 less students from the 2011-2012 actual enrollment. The district is currently down 53 students at the high school, 10 students less at the middle school and 23 students less at the elementary level. The blended enrollment is down 38 students from most recent projections.

C. Residency Process Update

Dr. Harwood reiterated the residency issues that have been presented over the last several months and how the administration has addressed those verification issues. He presented a document that spoke to the concerns and guidelines for existing procedures and proposals to resolve conflicts. Superintendent Harwood also reviewed steps that have been taken since August. Policy 5111 describes the district's residency procedures and requirements. (see attached)

D. Calendar of Assessment Activities

Mrs. Bur walked the Board through the Student Testing Schedule for 2012-2013. She noted the grades and dates for the following testing: NWEA (Northwest Evaluation Association) grades K-8; MEAP (Michigan Educational Assessment Program) grades 3-9; GPWA (Grosse Pointe Writing Assessment, Grades 1-8; MI Access, grades 3-8 and grade 11; MME (Michigan Merit Exam) grade 11; ELPA (English Language Proficiency Assessment) ELL students; AP (Advanced Placement) high school students; and Grade 5 Math.

E. Policy Committee Update

Trustee Walsh shared information that the committee would be meeting again on Thursday, November 1, 2012 to discuss various policies. At the meeting on October 11, 2012, the committee reviewed: Policy 5111, Enrollment Eligibility including transfers in the district; Policy 9130, Public Complaints; Policy 1240, Superintendent's Evaluation; and Policy 2605, Program Accountability and Evaluations.

VIII. FUTURE MEETINGS

President Gafa announced there will be a tentative Work Session at 7:00 p.m. on Monday, November 19, 2012 and a Regular Meeting of the Board at 7:00 p.m. on Monday, November 26, 2012 in the Brownell Multipurpose Room. There will also be a Policy Committee Meeting on Thursday, November 1, 2012 at 6 p.m. at the administration building.

IX. PUBLIC COMMENTS ON NON-ACTION ITEMS

George McMullen, Grosse Pointe Woods, shared his thoughts on the residency issue and process.

Kim Van Gorder, GPESPA President, spoke regarding the proposed fund equity pay deducts from employee groups in the district. She was joined by the GPEAOP President, Sheryl Hogan.

Diane Karabetsos, Grosse Pointe Woods, thanked the administration, Mr. Fenton and Mr. Jordan for their commitment to resolving residency concerns and listening to the issues of the community regarding enrollment verification.

Isabelle Mason, Grosse Pointe Woods, shared her thoughts on the residency issues.

X. OTHER COMMENTS FROM BOARD AND SUPERINTENDENT

Board members congratulated the National Merit Scholars and AP Scholars from both North and South High Schools. They also congratulated Dan Quinn on being named Emerging Leader by the Phi Delta Kappan International Association. Members thanked the Rotary for the contributions to the athletic departments at the high schools as well as the Girls Scouts for leading the Pledge this evening.

Trustee Dindoffer also thanked Chris Fenton and the Full Circle Foundation for their commitment to providing an opportunity for a permanent home for the district's students.

She also thanked Mr. Fenton and all those who worked to accommodate the community's residency verification concerns and for proposing solutions to help meet those needs. Mrs. Dindoffer encouraged everyone to vote on November 6th.

Trustee Pangborn spoke about her experience as a volunteer at Monteith reading to students and watching how the teachers use differentiation to meet the needs of every student at every level. She encouraged others in the community to volunteer in the schools.

Trustee Jakubeic addressed the National Merit students and commended them on their outstanding achievement and honor as students.

Trustee Walsh addressed the district's financial issues noting that he has deep sympathy with employee pay cuts but does not want to create a false hope that pay deductions can be eliminated. They are poised to happen due to the financial climate in the state and the sinking fund equity status.

Trustee Roeske encouraged the community to visit any school building during the Open House on November 11, 2012. He also encouraged everyone to vote on November 6th.

Trustee Valente commented on the Monteith Art Contest that recently took place noting the art work of the pumpkins colored by the students there as she wished everyone a Happy Halloween.

Superintendent Harwood thanked Mary Fodell, Kill Mestdag and Karl Kratz for their commitment to the Full Circle Board and the students that are beneficiaries of their hard work and dedication. He noted that it has been a full season of sports in the district with more to come. He encouraged the community to check the district website for upcoming events. Dr. Harwood shared a legislative update speaking about where the district stands with the legislature. He said that there will be a legislative network created with assistance from WCRESA that will provide legislative updates and alerts affecting school districts that every resident can subscribe to. He also encouraged everyone to vote on November 6th.

President Gafa thanked Troop 427 for leading the School Board in the Pledge of Allegiance this evening. She shared her experience at a concert at Brownell Middle School where students learned about life in Tanzania through music noting it was a high energy, exiting event. She encouraged community members to attend the Open House on November 11, 2012.

XI. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, President Gafa adjourned the meeting at 8:57 p.m.

Board Secretary