



**Grosse Pointe Board of Education  
Minutes of the Regular Meeting of November 26, 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 7:02 p.m.

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

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Trustee Valente.

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

**II. APPROVAL OF BOARD AGENDA FOR NOVEMBER 26, 2012**

**It was Moved by:** Trustee Roeske

**Supported by:** Trustee Valente

**THAT the Board Agenda for Monday, November 26, 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. Fifth Annual Awards for Distinguished Employee Service**

Vice-President Valente read biographies of those employees selected to receive the Distinguished Employee Service Recognition Award as Superintendent Harwood, President Gafa and Trustee Dindoffer congratulated and presented awards to: Patricia Curtis-Gough; Beverly Forsyth; Michelle Hartman; Dianne McPharlin; Barry Novak; Joanna Porvin; Lisa Rheame; Sheila Russo; Richard Van Gorder; and Geoffrey Young.

**Brief Reception to Honor Distinguished Employees**

Agenda Item V. A. *Gift from the Grosse Pointe Foundation for Public Education* was moved up on the agenda to accommodate representatives from the Foundation Board who were present to share their recommendations for funding to the district.

The Foundation's Grant Committee made recommendations to the Foundation Board at their meeting in October, 2012 to approve a group of grant requests submitted for their consideration. Cat Ruffner from the Foundation Board presented the following grants that were approved by that Board:

**RAZ Enhancement of Instruction Reader Workshop K-3, all elementary schools, \$30,000**

**Netbooks for 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> graders, Poupard, \$30,000**

**Workshop for 4<sup>th</sup> grade, Maire, \$600**

**Wireless Netbooks for Magnet 4/5 classroom, Ferry, \$7,000**

**RAMP ASCA Model Program for Middle School Counselors, Brownell, Parcels, Pierce, \$2,000**

**Homework Club for Focus and Title 1 schools, Poupard/Mason/Ferry/Defer/Trombly, \$19,968**

**Solar Car Team, South High School, \$3,000**

**iLearn with iPads for Magnet 4/5 program, Defer, \$7,000.**

The total gift from the Grosse Pointe Foundation for Public Education was for \$99,568.

**It was Moved by:** Trustee Roeske

**Supported by:** Trustee Pangborn

**THAT the Board approve, with gratitude, the gift of \$99,568 from the Grosse Pointe Foundation for Public Education for the grant requests listed above.**

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

**Nays:** None

**Motion carried by a 7 – 0 vote.**

## **B. Legislative Update**

Superintendent Harwood said that state legislatures have been busy in Lansing working to pass several “Lame duck” bills prior to a new legislative group which takes effect January 1, 2013. Given the legislative threats to public education, Dr. Harwood noted that it is important that the district and community establish collective voices to express joint concerns in regard to these bills.

Dr. Harwood shared information about a podcast given by Dr. Vickie Markavitch, Superintendent of Oakland Schools, who is a strong advocate for quality public educational programs addressing these current proposed legislative bills in both the House (HB 6004) and the Senate (SB 1358). This podcast is available at [www.oakland.k12.mi.us](http://www.oakland.k12.mi.us). Dr. Markavitch will be speaking on these bills and other critical issues facing the district schools. Meetings with Dr. Markavitch will be held on Monday, December 3, 2012 at 4 p.m. and 6:30 p.m. in the Rochester High School Auditorium, 180 S. Livernois in Rochester Hills.

Superintendent Harwood also spoke to an additional House Bill, HB 5923, which is intended to introduce into the Revised School Code an amendment that would allow the additions of several new forms of charter and online schools. He will be presenting information related to HB 6004, SB 1358, HB 5923 and the Oxford Foundation in upcoming correspondence to the community.

## **C. Good News Items**

Superintendent Harwood thanked the ten Distinguished employees who were selected by the committee for their outstanding service to the school system. He also noted and thanked the student athletes who have been successful this season at recent District Regionals and State tournaments.

## **D. District Open House**

Superintendent Harwood addressed the success of the Open House that recently took place under the direction of Deputy Superintendent, Jon Dean and Community Relations Specialist, Rebecca Fannon on November 11, 2012. Dr. Dean then presented some information and highlights of that event.

## **E. District Independent Financial Audit and Federal Grant Report**

Deputy Superintendent Fenton introduced Plante Moran representatives Laura Claeys and David Kristick who presented their audit findings which rendered an unqualified or “clean” opinion, the highest form of an assurance a school district can receive. Ms. Claeys noted that information of the 2012 Audit Report and Basic financial Statements and Federal Program Audit Report were provided to Board members for review prior to the meeting.

Treasurer Walsh also reported on the spending trends and financial information from the Budget Modeling Utility Program. He shared differences in compensation, both direct and indirect as well as employee contracts, per pupil revenue and expenses and how they have changed from 2004 to 2011.

#### **IV. PUBLIC COMMENTS ON AGENDA ACTION ITEMS**

George McMullen, Grosse Pointe Woods, shared his thoughts on the departure of Student Services Director, Deborah Jackson, and the process and expectations on filling that vacancy.

#### **V. AGENDA ACTION ITEMS FOR NOVEMBER 26, 2012**

##### **A. Approval of Gift from the Grosse Pointe Foundation for Public Education**

This item was presented earlier in the meeting.

##### **B. Approval of Human Resources Report for November 26, 2012**

The Human Resources Report was presented by Dr. Dean. He noted the resignation of Deborah Jackson from the Student Services Department at the end of December and the process in place to interview for that replacement.

**It was Moved by:** Trustee Walsh

**Supported by:** Trustee Roeske

**THAT the Board approve the Human Resources Report as presented.**

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

**Nays:** Trustee Valente

**Motion carried by a 6 – 1 vote.**

##### **C. Approval of Closed and Special Meeting Minutes of October 15, 2012 and Regular Meeting Minutes of October 29, 2012**

The minutes of the October meetings of the Board were presented for approval.

**It was Moved by:** Trustee Roeske

**Supported by:** Trustee Walsh

**THAT the Board approve the Minutes of the October Board Meetings as presented.**

**It was Moved by:** Trustee Pangborn

**THAT the October 15, 2012 Special Meeting Minutes be separated from the Closed Meeting Minutes and the Regular Meeting Minutes of October 29, 2012 before voting.**

**It was Moved by:** Trustee Roeske

**To withdraw his original motion to accept the minutes collectively.**

**President Gafa then called for a motion to approve the Closed Session Minutes of October 15, 2012 and the Regular Meeting Minutes of October 29, 2012 as presented.**

**It was Moved by:** Trustee Walsh

**THAT the Closed Session Minutes of October 15, 2012 and the Regular Meeting Minutes of October 29, 2012 be approved as presented.**

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

**Nays:** None

**Motion carried by a 7 – 0 vote.**

**President Gafa then asked for a motion to approve the Special Meeting Minutes of October 15, 2012 as presented.**

**It was Moved by:** Trustee Walsh

**Supported by:** Trustee Valente

Trustee Jakubiec then asked for revisions on those minutes.

After Board discussion,

**Trustee Roeske called a motion to “call to question”.**

**No second to support.**

**Discussion continued.**

**It was Moved by:** Trustee Pangborn

**Supported by:** Trustee Jakubiec

**THAT “Trustee Pangborn’s” name be replaced with “Trustee Jakubiec’s” name on the Special Meeting Minutes of October 15, 2012, page 2, Agenda Action Item IV. A. *Approval of Resolution Regarding Notarized Residency Affidavit*, in the first sentence: “A resolution (dated October 11, 2012) requiring that an affidavit be notarized for student acceptance into school was presented by Trustee Pangborn.”**

**The revised minutes will now state, “A resolution (dated October 11, 2012) requiring that an affidavit be notarized for student acceptance into school was presented by *Trustee Jakubiec*.”**

Trustee Dindoffer, Yes

Trustee Pangborn, Yes

Trustee Roeske, Yes

Trustee Walsh, Yes

Trustee Jakubiec, Yes

Trustee Valente, Yes

Trustee Gafa, Yes

**Motion carried by a 7 – 0 vote.**

**It was Moved by:** Trustee Walsh

**Supported by:** Trustee Roeske

**THAT the Special Meeting Minutes of October 15, 2012 be approved as amended.**

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

**Nays:** Trustee Jakubiec

**Motion carried by a 6 – 1 vote.**

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

Deputy Superintendent Fenton shared information on the district’s General Appropriations Act Amendment No. 1 report for 2012 – 13.

Trustee Dindoffer requested that a report regarding the available cash balance be provided to the Board each

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month from the business office.

**It was Moved by:** Trustee Jakubiec

**Supported by:** Trustee Walsh

**THAT the Board approve the G.A.A.A. #1 as presented.**

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

**Nays:** None

**Motion carried by a 7 – 0 vote.**

**E. Approval of Revised Policy 1240, Superintendent's Evaluation**

The Board's first reading of the Revised Policy 1240, Superintendent's Evaluation, last month. Feedback on those revisions was received by members of the Policy Committee. A concern was that the evaluation process could somehow exclude input from all members of the Board. This was not the Committee's intent and noted that any evaluation process would need support of all Board members.

To address that concern, the Policy Committee proposed a revision to the subsequent revision that states: "Each member of the Board must be afforded the opportunity to participate in the process in some manner."

**It was Moved by:** Trustee Valente

**Supported by:** Trustee Roeske

**THAT the Revised Policy 1240, Superintendent's Evaluation be approved as amended.**

Trustee Jakubiec asked that the phrase, "...in some manner." Be removed from the revision presented.

**It was Moved by:** Trustee Dindoffer

**Supported by:** Trustee Walsh

**THAT the Board approve the Revised Policy 1240, Superintendent's Evaluation, with the phrase "...in some manner" stricken from the sentence that was added to the final revision of the policy. Therefore, the correct sentence would read, "Each member of the Board must be afforded the opportunity to participate in the process."**

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

**Nays:** None

**Motion carried by a 7 – 0 vote.**

**VI. AGENDA ACTION ITEMS FOR DECEMBER 17, 2012**

**A. Approval of Human Resources Report for December, 2012**

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

**B. Approval of Minutes of November, 2012**

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

**C. Approval of Policies**

Policy 9130, Public Complaints will be discussed at the next Policy Committee Meeting. Administrative Guidelines will also be developed to accompany the Policy 9130.

**VII. INFORMATION AND DISCUSSION**

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#### **A. Board Meeting Calendar for 2013**

A draft of a proposed Board Meeting Calendar for 2013 was provided to the Board for their review to be voted on at their January, 2013 Organizational Meeting. The January meeting date would be established at the December 17<sup>th</sup> regular meeting of the Board. Superintendent Harwood also noted that both meetings are now called “regular” meetings, the first being to discuss the regular business of the Board, and the second meeting for voting for action on agenda items.

#### **B. Monthly Financial Report/Health Care Report**

Mr. Fenton said that the reports provided were on target and adjustments reflect the new G.A.A.A. brought forth this evening.

Dr. Dean shared information from the health care reports provided to the Board.

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

#### **C. High School Program of Studies**

Secondary Curriculum Director, Aaron Johnson, highlighted changes in this year’s High School Program of Studies. He noted there were no major changes. Any changes resulting from the 21<sup>st</sup> Century High School Study will be made to the 2013-2014 High School Program of Studies.

#### **D. Elementary Standards-Based Report Cards**

Elementary Curriculum Director, Maureen Bur, shared information on Standards- Based Elementary Report Cards. She noted that the new report cards were designed to ensure appropriate assessment for all general and special education students.

#### **E. Declaration of Interest in Board Officer Positions for the December Meeting**

Board members will have an opportunity to declare their interest in a Board Officer position at the December 17, 2012 regular meeting.

### **VIII. FUTURE MEETINGS**

President Gafa announced there will be a tentative Work Session at 7:00 p.m. on Monday, December 10, 2012 and a Regular Meeting of the Board at 7:00 p.m. on Monday, December 17, 2012 in the Brownell Multipurpose Room. There will also be a Policy Committee Meeting on Wednesday, December 12, 2012 at 6 p.m. at the administration building.

### **IX. PUBLIC COMMENTS ON NON-ACTION ITEMS**

No one came forward to speak at this time.

### **X. OTHER COMMENTS FROM BOARD AND SUPERINTENDENT**

Board members and Superintendent Harwood thanked the Grosse Pointe Foundation for Public Education for their continued support and generous funding to the district. Mr. Fenton, Ms. Smith and their staff were also thanked for their diligence in financial reporting to the auditors warranting a “clean” audit. They congratulated the Distinguished Employees recognized this evening.

### **XI. ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business, President Gafa adjourned the meeting at 10:46 p.m.

**It was then Moved by:** Trustee Valente

**Supported by:** Trustee Roeske

**THAT the Board move into a closed session to discuss negotiations.**

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

**Nays:** None

**Motion carried by a 7 – 0 vote.**

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Board Secretary