



Next Meetings:

There will be a regular meeting of the Board at 7 p.m., June 17 (audiotaped), in the **Brownell Multi-Purpose Room**, 260 Chalfonte, Grosse Pointe Farms, and a Regular Meeting of the Board at 7 p.m., June 24, (videotaped) in the **Brownell Multi-Purpose Room**. Also on June 24 at 7 p.m. in the Brownell MPR will be public hearings on the budget and the school breakfast program.

You can watch board meetings at <http://gpschools.schoolwires.net/Page/11534>, on Comcast channel 20/902 or AT&T channel 99, or listen to the podcast on the district site.

Mark Your Calendar:

- North-South Annual Instrumental Concert, 7 p.m. outside the PAC
- North Art Show in PAC through 5/23 8 a.m.-3 p.m., 6:30-8:30 p.m.
- Retirement and 25 year celebration June 4 in South's Cleminson Hall
- South's graduation at 6:30 p.m. June 12
- North's graduation at 6:30 p.m. June 13

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Board Briefs

May 2013

Superintendent's report includes 29th annual Distinguished Volunteers

Dr. Harwood administered the Oath of Office to Trustee Brian Summerfield, then Mr. Summerfield helped him honor our high school seniors who are going on to military service. Then Dr. Harwood celebrated Maire's National Sodexo Food Challenge winner, congratulated South's Congressional Art Competition winner, and shared an update on the 18 hearing referrals and 121 vision referrals that came from the screening we provided with Wayne RESA this year. He shared his experience attending concerts and honors nights and encouraged other to do the same. He then provided a legislative update focusing on State budget development progress and proposed MI Merit curriculum changes, and encouraged all to join the GP-LAN and read his weekly blog linked from the main page of the website.

Resolution regarding staff layoffs approved

Several trustees noted how difficult it is to do these layoffs and encouraged all families who have not yet enrolled their student for next year to do so, as that is one of the primary factors impacting the lay-off list. Lay-offs are also driven by secondary students' class selection, family leaves, retirements, and state and federal funding. Ten classroom assistants and eleven teachers were laid off. There are currently 22 on this year's retirement list.

Board approves two policies - student groups and kindergarten entrance age

After voting down 3-4 a version of Policy 5480 on Recognized Student Groups that contained a phrase not permitting administrators or board members to serve as advisors to student clubs, a version recommended by the majority of the board policy committee passed 6-1 without that phrase. A revised Policy 5112 that described the State's new kindergarten entrance age passed 7-0. Next year, students must be 5 years of age on or before November 1, or sign a parent waiver, to attend kindergarten. The following year the deadline is October 1. For 2015-16 on, the deadline is September 1, in line with the majority of states across the country. All approved policies are sent to NEOLA for posting on the website and can be searched for using key words.

Business office business

The board voted to acknowledge receipt of the Wayne RESA budget, but did not vote to approve or reject it. Three construction bids were approved 7-0: resurfacing parking lots at Pierce/South/Trombly to S & J Asphalt Paving for \$101,090; Parcels pool and North PAC roofs to J.D. Candler Roofing for \$102,191; and a portion of the South Slate Tile Roof to Royal Roofing for \$165,860. All are from the sinking fund. Also approved 7-0 were GAAA#2 (a third budget amendment is anticipated next month when final cafeteria, substitute and health care figures are in) and three leases. The Family Center and Grosse Pointe Education Association will continue to lease space at Barnes from the district. The district is leasing space on a sliding scale from Full Circle Foundation to provide local community classroom space for our students in special education in the 18-26 age category.

North softball field named for Bill Taylor

The board approved 7-0 naming North's softball field for Bill Taylor, who coached the team for 34 years until his retirement in 2011. Mr. Taylor was elected into the Softball Coaches Hall of Fame in 2002 and named to the Grosse Pointe Hall of Fame. He surpassed 500 wins in 2007.

On the June agenda and on your radar

We will have our budget and school breakfast hearing, and vote on the proposed budget during the June 24 meeting in the Brownell MPR. Budget development continues in earnest and suggestions are welcome at budget@gpschools.org. After a May 29 board policy committee meeting, there will be additional policy changes recommended. Under Information and Discussion this month, Maureen Bur presented the Elementary Program of Studies, and the board invited members of the community to bring forward names for honorary diplomas for World War II and Korean War veterans whose education was cut short for service to our country.