



IV. A.

**Grosse Pointe Board of Education
Minutes of the Regular Meeting of October 21, 2013
Brownell Middle School MultiPurpose Room
260 Chalfonte, Grosse Pointe Farms, MI 48236**

MEETING MINUTES

I. CALL TO ORDER

President Dindoffer called the regular meeting to order at 7:01 p.m.

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

Absent: Trustee Roeske

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Trustee Pangborn.

Also Present: Superintendent Harwood; Deputy Superintendents Dean and Fenton

II. APPROVAL OF BOARD AGENDA FOR OCTOBER 21, 2013

It was Moved by: Trustee Gafa

Supported by: Trustee Valente

THAT the Board Agenda for Monday, October 21, 2013 be approved as presented.

It was Moved by: Trustee Pangborn

Supported by: Trustee Jakubiec

THAT the Board Agenda for Monday, October 21, 2013 include the addition of Board Comments as Agenda Item number VII.

Ayes: Trustees Dindoffer, Gafa, Jakubiec, Pangborn, Summerfield and Valente

Absent: Trustee Roeske

Nays: None

Motion carried by a 6 – 0 vote.

The motion to approve the original agenda has already been moved and supported.

THAT the Board Agenda for Monday, October 21, 2013 be adopted with the addition of Board Comments added to the end of the Agenda Item number VII.

Ayes: Trustees Dindoffer, Gafa, Jakubiec, Pangborn, Summerfield and Valente

Absent: Trustee Roeske

Nays: None

Motion carried by a 6 – 0 vote.

III. PUBLIC COMMENTS ON AGENDA ACTION ITEMS

There were no public comments at this time.

IV. AGENDA ACTION ITEMS FOR OCTOBER 21, 2013

A. Approval of Regular Meeting Minutes of September 17 and 23, 2013

It was Moved by: Trustee Gafa

Supported by: Trustee Pangborn

THAT the Board approve the Meeting Minutes of September 17 and 23, 2013 as presented.

Ayes: Trustees Dindoffer, Gafa, Jakubiec, Pangborn, Summerfield and Valente

Absent: Trustee Roeske

Nays: None

Motion carried by a 6 – 0 vote.

B. Approval of Human Resources Report for October 21, 2013

Dr. Dean provided information contained on the Human Resources Report for October 21, 2013. He addressed the recent resignation of the Chinese teacher and the conditions to filling that vacancy as soon as possible.

It was Moved by: Trustee Gafa

Supported by: Trustee Pangborn

THAT the Board approve the Human Resources Report for October 21, 2013 as presented.

Ayes: Trustees Dindoffer, Gafa, Jakubiec, Pangborn, Summerfield and Valente

Absent: Trustee Roeske

Nays: None

Motion carried by a 6 – 0 vote.

C. Approval of Field Trip Request for Grosse Pointe South High School Choir Program

The Grosse Pointe South High School Choir Program is requesting the Board of Education approve a request for the members of the choir to engage in a trip to London, England and Paris, France where they will perform at international schools, attend musical events, visit historical museums and sites, and observe the customs and cultures. This trip would occur during the midwinter break (February 14, 2014 through February 22, 2014) when school is not in session. The trip is coordinated through the Band Director, Mr. Christopher Pratt, and several South Choir booster parents. Additional information regarding this Field Trip Request was provided to the Board including the itinerary, accommodations, cost, and proposed adult supervisors.

It was Moved by: Trustee Gafa

Supported by: Trustee Pangborn

THAT the Board approve the Field Trip Request for Grosse Pointe South High School Choir Program as requested.

Ayes: Trustees Dindoffer, Gafa, Jakubiec, Pangborn, Summerfield and Valente

Absent: Trustee Roeske

Nays: None

Motion carried by a 6 – 0 vote.

D. Approval of Grant Award for Great Start Readiness Program

Governor Snyder's 2013 State of the State speech referenced an increase in funding for early childhood programs throughout the state as part of the Great Start Readiness Program (GSRP). Additional allocations in funds from the Michigan Department of Education to the district has been awarded for 32 half day slots/16 full

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day slots in the amount of \$116,000. The funds allocated would cover the cost of a preschool tuition for four-year-old children where the family household is at or below the 250% poverty level with documentation that there exists at least 2 of 8 risk factors. The funds would cover the startup costs, the payroll/personnel costs, and related administrative fees. The program would require an 8:1 student to adult ratio in the classroom and the classroom would need to be licensed by square footage requirements and facilities requirements.

For this first year, the program would run for a minimum of 20 weeks and the program would take place in alignment with the regularly established school hours of the GPPSS elementary schools. Upon review of potential qualified students eligible for this program, the availability of space, and the ability to collaborate with our current Head Start program at Poupard Elementary, it appears that Poupard Elementary would be the appropriate placement for this program. Any qualified and identified four-year-old students that meet the at-risk requirements throughout the Grosse Pointe Public School System however, may qualify and be serviced in this program. The administration is requesting that the Board of Education accept the grant award from the Michigan Department of Education and Wayne RESA in the amount of \$116,000 and approve the contractual agreement to implement the Great Start Readiness Program at Poupard Elementary School.

It was Moved by: Trustee Gafa

Supported by: Trustee Pangborn

THAT the Board approve the Grant Award for the Great Start Readiness Program as presented.

Ayes: Trustees Dindoffer, Gafa, Jakubiec, Pangborn, Summerfield and Valente

Absent: Trustee Roeske

Nays: None

Motion carried by a 6 – 0 vote.

V. INFORMATION AND DISCUSSION

A. Technology Update

Mr. Gary Abud, Michigan Teacher of the Year, spoke about his new position in the district working with teachers to integrate technology into everyday learning. He addressed the role his job encompasses and what he has done so far. He shared mentoring opportunities; technology coaching and technology projects; overall findings of technology uses and needs; and his recommendations and future plans involving technology for staff and students. Mr. Abud also shared the importance of the district's and community's understanding of the need for the technology bond to pass on the ballot in February.

B. Information Regarding Response to Intervention (RtI)/Multi-Tiered System of Support (MTSS)

Mrs. Bur provided an explanation of how the district is responding to a multi-tiered system of support (MTSS) regarding intervention strategies for struggling students. Topics included: Differentiated Instruction; the 3 Tiers of Support (intense individual, targeted small group, and core classroom instruction); and the district's response to intervention within the multi-tiered support system. Due to RtI, the district used NWEA assessments as a screening tool. In the elementary level this year, all elementary schools will participate in RtI/MTSS 2 to 3 times per week for 20 minutes per day. In the secondary level, high school tutorials are being structured to provide small group instruction. The district is responding to federal mandates in intervention strategies for struggling students and is focused on doing everything possible to ensure that Grosse Pointe Public School students are college and career ready.

C. Enrollment Update

Mr. Fenton noted that the enrollment update as of the October 2, 2013 official count day shows the district with an actual enrollment of 8,354, which is 29 students higher than the projected enrollment count of 8,325.

VI. PUBLIC COMMENTS ON NON-ACTION ITEMS

Julie Moe, Grosse Pointe Woods, shared her thoughts on the importance of an inclusive preschool program for all students in the district.

William Shall, Ferry student, shared his education as opposed to the education his special needs brother will receive when he enters the school district.

Kara Shall, Grosse Pointe, spoke about the possibility of her special needs son receiving an inclusive preschool education when he enters the school district.

Jennifer Munson, addressed the Board regarding her 2 ½ year old twins and the need of one of the twins with special needs and the importance of an inclusive preschool program in place for his education.

Kathy Fry, Grosse Pointe City, asked the Board to consider creating a preschool program that includes children with special needs to address her son's education.

Lisa Monette, Grosse Pointe Farms, asked for inclusion for her son's preschool program.

Cynthia Misuraca also addressed the preschool inclusion issue for district students.

Brett Mitchell, addressed the Board regarding uniting the Farms residents allowing students in the north end of the Farms to grant transfer requests for students wanting to attend South High School. He also expressed support for the parents requesting an inclusive preschool program for their children.

Karen Grobbel, Grosse Pointe City, also addressed the Board on the importance of inclusion for special needs students in district programs.

VII. FUTURE MEETINGS

- A. Board Policy Committee Meeting, Thursday, October 24, 2013, 6:00 p.m., Board Room, 389 St. Clair
- B. Regular Meeting of the Board, Monday, October 28, 2013, 7:00 p.m., Brownell MultiPurpose Room

VIII. COMMENTS FROM THE BOARD AND SUPERINTENDENT

Trustee Pangborn thanked the parents that spoke this evening about inclusion concerns and student transfers.

Trustee Jakubiec also thanked community members and parents who spoke this evening.

Trustee Summerfield had no comment.

Trustee Valente expressed positive feedback on the report from Mr. Johnson and Mrs. Bur explaining MTSS (Multi-Tiered System of Support) and RtI (Response to Intervention). She also noted the importance of inclusion for those special needs students in the district.

Trustee Gafa thanked Mr. Abud for the work he is doing in the system mentoring teachers and expanding integration of technology and curriculum in classrooms. She added that she hopes the district will find ways to integrate inclusion for special needs students.

Superintendent Harwood thanked the Board for their support of the new preschool program. He added that the administration is looking at ways to facilitate the inclusion requests proposed by the speakers this evening. He also thanked Gary Abud for his work with staff and students in the areas of technology and curriculum.

President Dindoffer also thanked those speakers who addressed the Board this evening. She noted the importance of “challenging each and every student, each and every day”. She noted that more information on this topic will be brought forth as the district administration continues their discussions and finds ways to accommodate the issue.

IX. ADJOURNMENT

President Dindoffer adjourned the meeting at 9:44 p.m.

Lois Valente, Board Secretary