



IV. A.

Grosse Pointe Board of Education Minutes of the Regular Meeting of February 25, 2013 Multi-Purpose Room, Brownell Middle School 260 Chalfonte, Grosse Pointe Farms, MI 48236

MEETING MINUTES

I. CALL TO ORDER

President Dindoffer called the meeting to order at 7:03p.m.

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

Absent: Trustee Walsh

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Trustee Valente.

Also Present: Superintendent Harwood; Deputy Superintendent Dean

II. APPROVAL OF BOARD AGENDA FOR FEBRUARY 25, 2013

It was Moved by: Trustee Roeske

Supported by: Trustee Jakubiec

THAT the Board Agenda for Monday, February 25, 2013 be adopted as presented.

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

Absent: Trustee Walsh

Nays: None

Motion carried by a 6 – 0 vote.

III. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

A. Legislative Update

Superintendent Harwood shared news from Lansing including Governor's Snyder's Proposed Budget that suggests an investment in retirees, 4 year olds and community college students. Very little of that budget appears to invest in K-12 funding. Districts across the state need to let state representatives and senators know about the impact of the governor's plan on school programming, class size and other vital issues in school districts. Other bills in Lansing show movement in changes to high school graduation requirements as well as changes in vocational career students' graduation requirements and removing the requirement of foreign language.

B. Good News Items

1. Nick Provenzano – MACUL

Superintendent Harwood shared the good news that Nick Provenzano, South High School English teacher, was named by MACUL (Michigan Association for Computer Users in Learning) Technology User Teacher of the Year for 2013 for infusing technology in the classroom.

2. Three Parcels Middle School students were part of the recent "You Be the Chemist"

Three Parcels students at Parcels will be competing in the "You Be the Chemist" Regional Competition at WCRESA on February 27, 2013. They are excited to represent the Grosse Pointe Schools in that capacity.

3. Production Awards in Steve Geresy's Video and Production Program

Mr. Geresy's students have received the TV Production Program Award as part of the Student Film Festival sponsored by West Bloomfield High School on February 1, 2013. Grosse Pointe students received the top awards at that Film Festival.

4. MEAP scores

Grosse Pointe MEAP scores have recently been received and have demonstrated a great deal of improvement and the district is very pleased with the student performance.

5. Parcels Teacher News

Superintendent Harwood also addressed the untimely death of Parcels teacher, Brian Aulph.

6. Grosse Pointe Foundation and Tattum (FAST) Reading Program

Superintendent Harwood highlighted an analysis of a Longitude Study from 2007 to 2012 on the F.A.S.T. Reading Program in the Grosse Pointe Schools. He noted the historical perspective and how the program has worked. Dr. Harwood said that the two major assessment instruments used as qualification for the F.A.S.T. Intervention Reading Program were the MEAP and North West Evaluation Association (NWEA) tests. By 2008, 10 Reading Specialists in the district has been trained by Steve Tattum, Founder of the F.A.S.T. Reading Program. They then established a coordinated mission to help all challenged readers in the Grosse Pointe Schools. Five years later:

- Over 1,300 students in the Grosse Pointe Public School System have had the FAST Intervention Program
- 2nd grade is the average starting point (some start earlier, some later)
- FAST is used in ALL 9 elementary schools for the past 5 years
- The Grosse Pointe Foundation for Public Education has donated approximately \$250,000 towards this program.

The results show that the reading performance of FAST students exceeded grade expectations. Non FAST students met grade expectations at a slightly reduced rate when compared to FAST students. Thirty-eight percent of FAST students increased one or more proficiency levels compared to 29% of non-FAST students. Overall, the FAST intervention program has been significantly successful.

Superintendent Harwood also noted that he and Dr. Fries would be submitting an article for potential publication about the FAST Reading Program in the *Reading Quarterly Journal*.

Regular Agenda Item **V. A. *Approval of Gift from the Foundation for Public Education*** was moved up on the agenda as a follow-up to Dr. Harwood's report about the Tattum FAST Reading Program.

The Foundation's Grant Committee made a recommendation to the Foundation Board at their meeting in February, 2013 to approve a grant in the amount of \$35,000 for continued support for the Tattum (FAST) Reading Program. This gift was made available through John and Lisa Gandelot and the Edward and Lois Dwyer Foundation. Cat Ruffner introduced members of the Grosse Pointe Foundation in attendance thanking them for their continued support and commitment.

It was Moved by: Trustee Roeske

Supported by: Trustee Valente

THAT the Board accept with gratitude the gift from the Foundation for Public Education in the amount of \$35,000.

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

Nays: None

Absent: Trustee Walsh

Motion carried by a 6 – 0 vote.

C. Update from 21st Century High School Review Team/High School Scheduling Subcommittee

This item was presented after the Human Resources Report.

IV. PUBLIC COMMENTS ON AGENDA ACTION ITEMS

No one came forward to speak at this time.

V. ACTION ITEMS FOR FEBRUARY 25, 2013

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

This item was presented earlier in the meeting.

B. Approval of Human Resources Report for February 25, 2013

The Human Resources Report was presented by Dr. Harwood. Dr. Dean highlighted the North principal search process and final selection. He introduced the administration's recommendation of Kathryn Murray to the Board and audience as their selection for the North High School Principal. Following the Board's vote, congratulations were given to Mrs. Murray on her new administrative position.

It was Moved by: Trustee Gafa

Supported by: Trustee Jakubiec

THAT the Board approve the Human Resources report as presented.

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

Nays: None

Absent: Trustee Walsh

Motion carried by a 6 – 0 vote.

Superintendent Harwood then asked Dr. Dean to present information on the *Update from the 21st Century High School Review Team/High School Scheduling Subcommittee*.

Dr. Dean walked the Board and audience through a powerpoint that highlighted proposals for changes in the high school schedule. The committee first explored the strengths and weaknesses of the current schedule; how the current schedule aligns with student learning; and how to achieve an optimal schedule for the learning needs of students. The four significant findings of the committee's work included: Instructional time matters; Grosse Pointe students deserve and need 7 classes; True 21st Century Learning requires longer blocks of learning time; and remediation and support time for all students is imperative. Dr. Dean visited a review of Peer Districts and each district's high school schedule, hours of instructional time and 2011-12 ACT Score and MME level. The 21st Century High School Review Team/Scheduling Subcommittee found that 21st Century learners require: opportunities to engage, explore and create their own meaning; engagement with content requiring sustained time; and opportunities to collaborate with peers.

The committee also identified the use of tutorial participation and GPA and AP course selection noting that there was not a statistically identifiable relationship between the variables. Students were almost twice as likely to be absent from a tutorial as from an academic course, and the number of students electing a tutorial has been rising in the past five years.

An analysis of the strengths and concerns of a current 7 period day schedule were identified concluding with the committee's recommendation: 1) to attain an alternating block schedule for the 2014-15 school year; 2) class period lengths of approximately 91 minutes be incorporated into the new schedule; and 3) an advisory period for all students. A sample alternating block schedule was also provided as a recommendation by the committee.

Public Comments on the 21st Century High School Review

Cynthia Sohn, Grosse Pointe, shared her thoughts on the High School schedule proposals presented.

Ahmed Ismail, Grosse Pointe, addressed the Board about the 21st Century High School proposals.

Pete Spencer, Grosse Pointe, spoke to the Board in response to the proposals for the high school schedule

C. Approval of Regular and Closed Session Meeting Minutes of February 11, 2013

The minutes of the February 11, 2013 Board meetings were presented for approval.

It was Moved by: Trustee Gafa

Supported by: Trustee Pangborn

THAT the Board approve the Minutes of the February 11, 2013 Meetings as presented.

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

Nays: None

Absent: Trustee Walsh

Motion carried by a 6 – 0 vote.

D. Approval of Bid for Pierce Life Skills Room Remodeling

The Board of Education was asked to approve the bid from Ashor, Inc. for \$91,900 for the remodeling and upgrading of the Life Skills Room at Pierce Middle School.

It was Moved by: Trustee Jakubiec

Supported by: Trustee Gafa

THAT the Board approve the bid from Ashor, Inc. for \$91,000 for the remodeling and upgrading of the Life Skills Room at Pierce.

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

Nays: None

Absent: Trustee Walsh

Motion carried by a 6 – 0 vote.

E. Approval of Technology Bids

1. Cell Phone Bid

The district accepted and posted (on the National Universal Service Fund E-Rate website), bids for cellular telephone service as required. The Board was asked to approve a contract with Verizon for cell phone service at an estimated cost of \$46,409.52 per year for a contract term of three years.

It was Moved by: Trustee Gafa

Supported by: Trustee Roeske

THAT the Board approve a contract with Verizon for cell phone service for three years at a cost of \$46,409.52.

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

Nays: None

Absent: Trustee Walsh

Motion carried by a 6 – 0 vote.

2. WAN Services Bid

The district accepted bids for WAN (wide area network) services. The bids were posted on the National Universal Service Fund, E-Rate website as required. At their February 25, 2013 regular meeting, the Board will be asked to approve a contract with Comcast for 1 GB WAN services for \$14,400 per month with a 60 month contract term.

It was Moved by: Trustee Gafa

Supported by: Trustee Roeske

THAT the Board approve a contract with Comcast for 1 GB WAN services for \$14,400 per month for 60 months.

Ayes: Trustees Dindoffer, Gafa, Roeske and Valente

Nays: Trustees Jakubiec and Pangborn

Absent: Trustee Walsh

Motion carried by a 4 – 2 vote.

F. Approval of Reinstatement Panel

Board Policy 5611, Due Process, calls for the Board to appoint a Reinstatement Review Panel composed of two Board members, one administrator, one teacher, and one parent to review a petition for reinstatement of a student following expulsion when such a petition is received during the school year. Hence, the appointment of a standing panel is a prudent provision to make as part of the Board of Education's organizational items. However, the approval of all members of the Reinstatement Review Panel did not occur at the organizational meeting in January, 2013. The Board is asked to approve a Reinstatement Review Panel to serve from March through December, 2013 to handle any requests for reinstatement that are presented.

It was Moved by: Trustee Gafa

Supported by: Trustee Jakubiec

THAT the Board approve the Reinstatement Panel as presented.

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

Nays: None

Absent: Trustee Walsh

Motion carried by a 6 – 0 vote.

VI. AGENDA ACTION ITEMS FOR MARCH 25, 2013

The following items will be presented to the Board for approval at the March 25, 2013 meeting of the Board.

A. Approval of Human Resources Report for March, 2013

The Human Resources Report for March, 2013 will be provided prior to the next regular meeting of the Board.

B. Approval of Minutes of March 18, 2013

The Meeting Minutes for March 18, 2013 will be available prior to the next regular meeting of the Board.

C. Approval of Revision of Curriculum for World Language Program

Mr. Johnson, Bettina Amato and Mike Spears presented a review of the current K-12 World Language Curriculum. Guiding questions in the revision of the World Language Program include:

- Is the district prepared for the State requirement that all students graduating in the class of 2016 and beyond have mastered the equivalent of two credits of the same world language prior to graduation or demonstrate Novice High equivalency on the ACTFL Proficiency Scale?
- Should the elementary world languages program be expanded?
- Which languages should the district offer, and at which locations in order to make efficient use of district resources?
- Should the district add American Sign Language (ASL) as a district offering?

Ms. Amato and Mr. Spears proceeded to answer these questions and many more in order to provide verification for the district's world language needs.

D. Approval of Resolution Recognizing Distinguished Volunteers

The Board was asked to adopt a resolution provided to honor the recipients of the Twenty-Ninth Annual Distinguished Volunteer Awards. This award program is the district's way of expressing its appreciation to citizens who volunteer their time and effort for the programs and activities of the public schools. These awards will be presented at the Board regular meeting in April.

E. Approval of District Goals

Superintendent Harwood shared that in the proposal for the upcoming school year of 2013-2014, a more condensed approach to establishing the District Goals was drafted for review in order to provide a more communicative, concise, and responsive tool for establishing the direction for the Grosse Pointe Public School System. The format began with the overall Mission and Vision with a focus on the Student Learner Profile Characteristics for Success. Based on this foundation, the Strategic Goals give the broader picture of the areas that warrant focus. From the broader vision of Strategic Goals, establishment of specific goals for 2013-14 are shown in their alignment to the Strategic Goals with corresponding information on the purpose of the goals and the targeted learning outcomes.

F. Approval of Bids for Restroom Remodeling

1. Mason – Phase I

The work consists of:

- Complete remodeling of a boy's and girl's 2nd floor restrooms.
- Replacement of all existing plumbing fixtures, terrazzo flooring, toilet partitions, etc.
- New suspended acoustical ceiling, light fixtures, exhaust fan, etc.
- New porcelain ceramic wall tile.
- Gypsum board and furring, painting, etc.

The project is being funded from the Sinking Fund.

The Board is asked to award the bid to CAASTI Contracting Services for \$124,000.

2. Richard – Phase I

The work consists of:

- Complete remodeling of a stacked restroom, one boy's and one girl's.
- Replacement of all existing plumbing fixtures, terrazzo flooring, toilet partitions, etc.
- New suspended acoustical ceiling, light fixtures, exhaust fan, etc.
- New porcelain ceramic wall tile.
- Gypsum board and furring, painting, etc.

The project is being funded from the Sinking Fund.

The Board of Education is asked to award the bid to Envision Builders, Inc for \$125,800.

3. South – Phase III

The work consists of:

- Complete remodeling of two 2nd floor restrooms in the main building (one boy's and one girl's)
- Replacement of all existing plumbing fixtures, terrazzo flooring, toilet partitions, etc.
- New suspended acoustical ceiling, light fixtures, exhaust fan, etc.
- New marble wall panels and/or porcelain ceramic tile.
- Gypsum board and furring, painting, etc.

The project is being funded from the sinking fund.

The Board of Education is asked to award the bid for the South (Phase III) restrooms to NACE for \$239,000.

G. Approval of Continued Contract with Wayne Metropolitan Community Action Agency Head Start Program for 2013-2014 School Year

Information for the continued contract with Wayne Metropolitan Community Action Agency Head Start Program for 2013-2014 will be available prior to the next regular meeting of the Board.

VII. INFORMATION AND DISCUSSION

A. Monthly Financial Report/Health Care Report

Dr. Dean shared information received on the latest Health Care Report from Brown and Brown. Mr. Fenton was not in attendance to give an update of the Monthly Financial Report. Superintendent Harwood noted that he, Mr. Jakubiec and Mrs. Smith met earlier today to discuss budget areas of concern.

B. Residency Update

Superintendent Harwood said that the district sent out affidavit forms from a random computer sampling of 1,000 families across the district. Those families were required to bring in the signed, notarized affidavit which specifies the tuition issue and correct residency information. As of today, the district had received 721 completed and notarized affidavits.

C. District Goals

District goals were discussed earlier in the meeting and no further discussion was requested at this time.

VIII. FUTURE MEETINGS

There will be a Regular Meetings on Monday, March 18, 2013 at 7 p.m. in the Brownell Multi-Purpose Room and on Monday, February 25, 2013 at 7 p.m., also in the Brownell Multi-Purpose Room.

IX. PUBLIC COMMENTS ON NON-ACTION ITEMS

Daniel Taylor, Grosse Pointe, shared information on available funding for autism benefits for students.

George McMullen, Grosse Pointe Woods, addressed issues that concerned him about Board meeting etiquette and proper protocol.

X. OTHER COMMENTS FROM BOARD AND SUPERINTENDENT

Board members thanked Dr. Dean and the 21st Century Committee for their research on the proposals presented for the high school schedule. They also thanked the Grosse Pointe Foundation for Public Education for their continued commitment and generosity to the school district on behalf of the students. They thanked Tom Tobe for his leadership as interim principal at North High School and welcomed Kate Murray as she takes over in that role as principal.

Superintendent Harwood thanked Parcels Principal, Dr. Armstrong, for her leadership at Parcels, along with the building social workers and counselors, orchestrating support with staff and students to make sure that everyone was comfortable returning after the death of Mr. Aulph. He also welcomed and congratulated Kate Murray to the North Principalship and Stephanie Hayes as the new Director of Special Education Services.

XI. MOTION TO MOVE INTO CLOSED SESSION OF THE BOARD TO DISCUSS NEGOTIATIONS at 10:30 p.m.

It was Moved by: Trustee Roeske

Supported by: Trustee Valente

In a roll call vote,
Trustee Dindoffer, Yes
Trustee Gafa, Yes
Trustee Jakubiec, Yes
Trustee Pangborn, Yes
Trustee Roeske, Yes
Trustee Valente, Yes

Absent: Trustee Walsh

Motion carried by 6 – 0 vote.

XII. ADJOURNMENT

President Dindoffer adjourned the meeting at 10:30 p.m.

Lois Valente, Board Secretary