



**Grosse Pointe Board of Education
Minutes of the Regular Meeting of August 24, 2015
Brownell Multipurpose Room
260 Chalfonte, Grosse Pointe Farms, MI 48236**

MEETING MINUTES

I. CALL TO ORDER

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

Board members present: Trustees Gafa, Ismail, Pangborn, Roeske, Summerfield, Valente and Weertz

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by the South Solar Car Team.

Also Present: Superintendent Niehaus; Deputy Superintendents Dean and Fenton

II. APPROVAL OF BOARD AGENDA FOR AUGUST 24, 2015

It was Moved by: Trustee Weertz

Supported by: Trustee Roeske

THAT the Board Agenda for August 24, 2015 be approved as presented.

Ayes: Trustees Gafa, Ismail, Pangborn, Roeske, Summerfield, Valente and Weertz

Nays: None

Motion carried by a 7 – 0 vote.

III. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

A. South Student Solar Car Club Presentation

Superintendent Niehaus introduced the South Solar Car Team consisting of co-captains Sam Hoffman and Michael Rose, Ponette Rubio, Aiden Clements, Cole Teranus and Mrs. Griffin, the team advisor. The students showcased their solar car noting that its' construction incorporated aspects of science, technology and math. Sam Hoffman spoke on behalf of the team and also credited their advisor, Kyle Watson for their success with their solar car. The goal of the team is to raise enough money to build a new car to enter in the race that will take them from Dallas, Texas to Minneapolis, Minnesota next July, 2016.

B. Good News Report from GPEA

Laura Mikesell, GPEA President, noted that over 20 new teachers attended the new teacher orientation that started on Monday, August 24, and continues through Wednesday, August 26. Those new teachers will meet central office administrators and be advised on the work of the GPEA and how it works for them. Returning teachers are already in classrooms arranging bulletin boards and purchasing supplies as needed. Mrs. Mikesell added that she will be meeting with Debbie Stabenow tomorrow to discuss issues facing education.

IV. PUBLIC COMMENTS ON AGENDA ACTION ITEMS FOR AUGUST 24, 2015

There were no speakers at this time.

V. AGENDA ACTION ITEM FOR AUGUST 24, 2015

A. Approval of Human Resources Report for August 24, 2015

It was Moved by: Trustee Pangborn

Supported by: Trustee Ismail

THAT the Board approve the Human Resources Report for August 24, 2015 as presented.

Dr. Dear noted the retirements of Claire Horn and Mary Tomalis.

Ayes: Trustees Gafa, Ismail, Pangborn, Roeske, Summerfield, Valente and Weertz

Nays: None

Motion carried by a 7 – 0 vote.

B. Approval of Regular Meeting Minutes of August 17, 2015

It was Moved by: Trustee Weertz

Supported by: Trustee Pangborn

THAT the Board approve the Regular Meeting Minutes of August 17, 2015 as presented.

Ayes: Trustees Gafa, Ismail, Pangborn, Roeske, Summerfield, Valente and Weertz

Nays: None

Motion carried by a 7 – 0 vote.

C. Approval of Superintendent Goals for 2015-2016

It was Moved by: Trustee Weertz

Supported by: Trustee Ismail

THAT the Board *table* the Superintendent Goals for 2015-2016 until the September 28, 2015 regular meeting.

Superintendent Niehaus shared that his goals remain the same: enrollment; North/South; technology; special education; and communication. He plans to tie his quarterly evaluation in with district goals.

Ayes: Trustees Gafa, Ismail, Pangborn, Roeske, Summerfield, Valente and Weertz

Nays: None

Motion carried by a 7 – 0 vote.

D. Approval of Policies (second read)

1. Removal of Policy 9210, Parent Organizations

It was Moved by: Trustee Roeske

Supported by: Trustee Valente

THAT the Board approve the Removal of Policy 9210, Parent Organizations and the approval of Policy 9211, District Support Organizations as presented.

Ayes: Trustees Gafa, Ismail, Pangborn, Roeske, Summerfield, Valente and Weertz

Nays: None

Motion carried by a 7 – 0 vote.

E. Approval of Crisis and Emergency Planning with Compliance One Proposal

It was Moved by: Trustee Summerfield

Supported by: Trustee Roeske

THAT the Board approve the Bid with Compliance One for Crisis and Emergency Planning as presented.

Ayes: Trustees Gafa, Ismail, Pangborn, Roeske, Summerfield, Valente and Weertz

Nays: None

Motion carried by a 7 – 0 vote.

VI. AGENDA ACTION ITEMS FOR SEPTEMBER 28, 2015

President Gafa shared the agenda action items for the Board of Education's September 28, 2015 regular meeting.

- A. Approval of Human Resources Report for September 28, 2015
- B. Approval of Meeting Minutes of September 21, 2015
- C. Approval of 2015-2016 Tax Rates

Mr. Fenton noted that it will not be necessary for the district to hold a truth in taxation hearing since enrollment is declining and tax rates will not be going up.

- D. Approval of Policies
 - 1. 5610, Emergency Removal, Temporary Separation, Suspension and Expulsion of Students
 - 2. 5610.01, Permanent Expulsion
 - 3. 5611, Due Process Rights

Board members offered areas for revision in Policy 5610 regarding suspensions and the Superintendent's designee.

- E. Approval of Superintendent Goals for 2015-2016

VII. INFORMATION AND DISCUSSION

A. Monthly Financial Report/Health Care Report

Dr. Dean noted that June was the least expensive month in the last four years for health care.

Mr. Fenton also noted that there was not much to report for the month of July. He noted an error on the fund equity amount on the top of the report which he will correct and forward to Board members.

B. Enrollment Update

Mr. Fenton provided a target projection for the fall count noting that it was only off by 3 students as was projected early in the summer. He said that kindergarten projections were down by 25 students but up in other areas. These calculations are based on data from schedules as of this time. Once school starts, there could be a drop of 25-40 students who do not return in the fall which will lower the enrollment count further. Mr. Fenton also noted that 95-96% of verifications are complete.

VII. FUTURE MEETINGS

President Gafa announced upcoming meetings of the Board:

- A. Regular Meeting of the Board, Monday, September 21, 2015, 7:00 p.m., Brownell Multipurpose Room
- B. Board Policy Committee Meeting, Tuesday, September 22, 2015, Board Room, 389 St. Clair
- C. Closed Session of the Board, Monday, September 28, 2015, 6:00 p.m., Brownell Library
- D. Regular Meeting of the Board, Monday, September 28, 2015, 7:00 p.m., Brownell Multipurpose Room

VIII. PUBLIC COMMENTS ON NON-ACTION ITEMS

There were no public comments at this time.

IX. OTHER COMMENTS FROM BOARD AND SUPERINTENDENT

Trustee Pangborn shared that there is still time remaining before school starts for parents to speak with their children about cell phone use and appropriate behavior.

Trustee Ismail had no comment.

Trustee Valente thanked Mr. Howell, Mrs. Bur, Mr. Young, Mrs. Lappin, Ms. Rice and Mrs. VanJaarsveld for organizing this year's first day of summer school which was the most organized, well-run of any summer

school session she and other parents can remember. She thanked the summer school team for their efforts in making everything flow so well.

Trustee Summerfield had no comment.

Trustee Weertz said she was excited for the new school year to start. She said that everything is starting off on a super positive note. She thanked the solar car team and their advisor for their presentation this evening.

Trustee Roeske met with new teachers this morning and thanked the administration for inviting the Board to attend the session. He said he is looking forward to a good year noting that his children are very happy with their schedules.

Superintendent Niehaus said it was an honor and a pleasure to speak to the Rotary Club earlier in the day. He welcomed all Rotarians to take a tour of any school building any time. He also offered his open door to anyone who wanted to talk with him about any issue. He noted that he met with mayors last Friday and had dinner with city managers. He also shared that the theater in the park is a great place to go in the evening. Dr. Niehaus joined others in attending the summer select choir performance which he described as “spectacular.” He said that Grosse Pointe has a talented group of students and it was an outstanding performance as was the “That’s Entertainment” presentation which he also had an opportunity to attend.

President Gafa thanked the South solar car team for their presentation this evening. She thanked Alicia Carlisle from SERVE for the recent tour she provided to a group, herself included, to a place in Harrison Township called Big Family Warehouse. She thanked the Gearheads for the tour she recently attended from those students. Mrs. Gafa thanked Mr. Roeske for standing in for her this morning with the new teachers’ orientation. She looks forward to everyone coming back to school.

X. ADJOURNMENT

President Gafa adjourned the meeting at 8:13 p.m.

Margaret Weertz, Board Secretary