



**Grosse Pointe Board of Education  
Minutes of the Regular Meeting of February 9, 2015  
Multipurpose 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 7:00 p.m.

[\(click here to view video\)](#)

**Board members present:** Trustees Gafa, Ismail, Roeske, Summerfield, Valente and Weertz  
Trustee Pangborn arrived at 7:14 p.m.

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Trustee Valente.

**Also Present:** Deputy Superintendents Dean and Fenton; Consultants Dave Peterson and Larry Lobert from School Exec Connect

**II. APPROVAL OF BOARD AGENDA FOR FEBRUARY 9, 2015**

**It was Moved by:** Trustee Roeske

**Supported by:** Trustee Weertz

**THAT the revised Board Agenda for February 9, 2015 be approved as presented.**

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

**Absent:** Trustee Pangborn

**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 FEBRUARY 9, 2015**

**A. Approval of Human Resources Report for February 9, 2015**

**It was Moved by:** Trustee Valente

**Supported by:** Trustee Roeske

**THAT the Board approve the Human Resources Report for February 9, 2015 as presented.**

Dr. Dean highlighted the movement of Mrs. Bur to Director of Secondary Instruction.

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

**Absent:** Trustee Pangborn

**Nays:** None

**Motion carried by a 6 – 0 vote.**

**B. Approval of Regular Meeting Minutes of January 26, 2015 and Special Meeting and Closed Session Minutes of January 27, 2015 as presented.**

**It was Moved by:** Trustee Weertz

**Supported by:** Trustee Summerfield

**THAT the Board approve the Regular Meeting Minutes of January 26, 2015 and Special Meeting and Closed Session Minutes of January 27, 2015 as presented.**

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

**Supported by:** Trustee Summerfield

**THAT the Board approve an amendment to the January 26, 2015 Regular minutes to change the adjournment from *President Roeske* to *President Gafa*.**

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

**Nays:** None

**Motion carried by a 7 – 0 vote.**

## **VI. INFORMATION AND DISCUSSION**

### **A. Consultation with School Exec Connect, Superintendent Search Firm**

Mr. Fenton introduced Mr. Dave Peterson and Mr. Larry Lobert from School Exec Connect who will be conducting the district's superintendent search.

Mr. Peterson and Mr. Lobert thanked the Board for their selection of School Exec Connect as the firm for the district's Superintendent Search. Mr. Lobert presented information on the overview of the search beginning with the posting of the search process calendar, a letter to the staff and community and an on-line survey. Community engagement and building the Superintendent profile were also discussed with the Board. The search calendar targeted dates to meet and interview candidates; conduct finalist interviews; and schedule possible site visits if needed. An appointment of a new Superintendent is expected the week of May 11, 2015 with a starting date of July 1, 2015.

Board members had an opportunity to provide input and ask questions.

### **B. District Goals for 2015-2016**

Trustee Summerfield introduced the District Goals required by Board Policy. He said that the goals ideally should be created in the fall over the course of seven months with stakeholder involvement. He added that it was important for the committee to create goals that had consensus throughout; were easily articulated and clearly understood; relevant to the education of the students; accompanied by an action plan; availability of criteria to establish a successful goal. A critical goal is to create a Strategic Plan for curriculum and instructional practice that would help set the budget and building plans.

Dr. Dean provided information with the four goals developed by the committee:

**Goal #1:** Strategic Plan – to develop and implement a comprehensive, strategic plan during the 2015-2016 school year. This goal should be completed by December, 2015.

**Goal #2:** Curriculum Review – to review, align and evaluate the district curriculum.

**Goal #3:** Instructional Practices – to enhance professional growth and instructional effectiveness through research based strategies.

**Goal #4:** Fund Equity – to help the district meet the established general fund equity targets identified in various collective bargaining agreements by June 30, 2016.

After Board discussion, it was agreed that Goal #4, Fund Equity, would be removed from the District Goals for 2015-2016, leaving three remaining goals for next year.

## **VIII. FUTURE MEETINGS**

**A. Regular Meeting of the Board, Monday, February 23, 2015, 7:00 p.m., Brownell Multipurpose Room**

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

Laura Mikesell, GPEA President, congratulated Mrs. Bur on her movement to the Secondary Instructional Director position. She said that the GPEA is looking forward to continuing dialog with Mr. Summerfield and the administrative team and Board of Education on the District Goals as discussed. She noted that it is important that the teaching staff be included in the district's goals with clear input from each classroom and every level. Ms. Mikesell also said that making the Strategic Goals as manageable and doable as possible will give our district the best outcome. She said that the GPEA looks forward to working with School Exec Connect on the Superintendent search as well. She encouraged others to volunteer next year in December to act as a facilitator during Challenge Day at North High School. (2:26:09)

George McMullen, Jr., Grosse Pointe Woods, said that tonight's meeting was the most empowering school board meeting he has attended in seven years. He said that the best part of the meeting was the School Exec Connect segment. (2:29:21)

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

Trustee Pangborn wished everyone a good vacation.

Trustee Valente said she appreciated Board member's ability to calendar dates early for the Superintendent search.

Trustee Weertz said she appreciated the maintenance crews that cleared the snow and cleaned around the schools during the snow storm.

Trustee Summerfield had no comment.

Trustee Ismail had no comment.

Trustee Roeske congratulated Mrs. Bur on her movement in the Curriculum Department. He noted that the Board will adhere to the process for the Superintendent search for the district.

Dr. Dean noted that a change will have to be made on the district calendar at the high school level. He said that the "full day off" scheduled for April 21<sup>st</sup> for students will be moved to Monday, April 20<sup>th</sup> due to a change in the testing schedule.

Mr. Fenton had no comment.

President Gafa congratulated Mrs. Bur noting the great job she has done in the district and that her movement is well deserved. She reassured the community that she is committed to the superintendent process presented as one of being open and transparent and she will be seeing that process through to the end. She added that in the end, the district will end up with the best candidate for the school system. Mrs. Gafa echoed Trustee Valente's comments that this was a great meeting.

## **XI. ADJOURNMENT**

President Gafa adjourned the meeting at 9:29 p.m.

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Margaret Weertz, Board Secretary