



**Grosse Pointe Board of Education  
Minutes of the Regular Meeting of May 23, 2016  
Brownell Middle School – MultiPurpose Room  
260 Chalfonte, Grosse Pointe Farms, MI 48236**

**MEETING MINUTES**

**I. CALL TO ORDER**

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

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

**Absent:** none

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Mrs. Howey's 4<sup>th</sup> grade class.

**Also Present:** Superintendent Niehaus, Deputy Superintendents Dean and Fenton

**II. APPROVAL OF BOARD AGENDA FOR MAY 23, 2016**

**It was Moved by:** Trustee Weertz

**Supported by:** Trustee Roeske

Trustee Ismail stated that Dr. Niehaus has provided the Board with a bulletin outlining a number of items that Trustee Ismail had concerns with. Trustee Ismail would like to see Item #L, Approval of GPPSS 2015-16 Modified Formula Contract implementation tabled and item #M and #N, moved to Information and Discussion.

A motion was made to withdraw Item L and move Items M and N to Information and Discussion.

**It was Moved by:** Trustee Ismail

**Supported by:** Trustee Summerfield

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

**Nays:** Trustee Roeske

**Motion carried by a 6-1 vote.**

**III. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT**

Dr. Niehaus thanked everyone for coming out this evening and read a memo that he sent to the Board of Education this afternoon regarding the Modified Formula Consideration. It will be posted to the website and sent out for all to read after the meeting.

**A. FCCLA – Family, Career, Community, Leaders of America State Winners**

Mrs. Bur says that under the instructional leadership of Stacy Krzyminski and Julie Cutler, GP North teachers, North students participated in the FCCLA, Family, Career, Community, Leaders of America state competition in March, where two students, Laurel and Nicoletta, brought home a gold medal.

**B. Grosse Pointe Foundation for Public Education “Caught in the Act”**

Cathy Fisk, Community Leader and Grant Co-Chair of the Grosse Pointe Foundation for Public Education was at the meeting to present their “Caught In the Act of Giving Back” awards. Runner's up were Kids Helping Kids-Warm Hearts at Defer Elementary, The Flint Water Crisis at Poupard Elementary and Animals in Need at Poupard Elementary. Each group will receive a gift ranging from \$50 - \$250 for their organizations. This year's winner is Socktober at Trombly Elementary. Ms. Howey's fourth grade class set a goal of raising 219 pairs of socks for the local homeless shelter and actually raised 1002 pairs that were donated to Crossroads.

### **C. Presentation of Gifts from the Grosse Pointe Foundation for Public Education**

Christy Scoggin, current Vice President and Grants Co-Chairperson with GPFPE was here this evening to present the Grant Awards to the School Board totaling \$74,340. They are as follows:

1. RAZ- Kids (K-3rd) District (\$21,331) Submitted by Keith Howell
2. Sensory Room Materials (K-5th) Defer (\$1,911) Submitted by Erin Amos
3. Innovation Through Integrated Technology (1st-3rd) Trombly (\$3,662). Submitted by Mary O'Meara
4. Grant for 10 Android Tablets (3rd-5th) Defer (\$1,718) Submitted by Cheryl Quinlan
5. Destination Imagination (4th-12th) District (\$2,000) Submitted by Elizabeth and Herman Wang
6. Meeting the Needs of Students with Disabilities (6th-8th) Parcels (\$1,500). Submitted by Jackie Sage-Phillips
7. Enhanced Math Materials for Special Needs (6th-8th) Parcels (\$1,508). Submitted by Gina McEveney, Amy Bolzman, and Lauren Brown
8. Gizmo Library Renewal, (6th-8th) Brownell, Parcels and Pierce (\$10,500). Submitted by Mark Sonnenberg.
9. New Instruments for Instrumental Music (6th-8th) Brownell (\$3,500). Submitted by Dean Doss.
10. New Cellos for the Parcels Orchestra (6th-8th) Parcels (\$3,500). Submitted by Noah Zogas.
11. Enhancing and Updating Pierce Musical Instruments (6th-8th) Pierce (\$3,500). Submitted by James Gross
12. Drumline Musical Instruments and Stands (9th-12th) North (\$2,500). Submitted by David Cleveland.
13. Enhancing and Updating South's Musical Instrument Inventory (9th-12th). South (\$7,000) Submitted by James Gross
14. Grosse Pointe North Student Collaboratory, (9th-12th) North (\$5,565). Submitted by Amanda Pata and Brian Stackpoole.
15. iPad Video Studio for Tower Pulse and Honors Journalism, (9th-12th) South. (\$4,645). Submitted by Rod Satterthwaite

### **D. Good News Items – Laura Mikesell**

1. Brownell - ASCA (American School Counselor Association) Model RAMP designation

Mrs. Mikesell introduced Brownell Counselors, Angie Niforos and Marie Fachini-Kurily, who secured a grant and diligently worked for three years to align their program with the national model known as RAMP. The ASCA (American School Counselor Association) Model RAMP award is given to schools that are committed to delivering a comprehensive data driven school counseling program and an exemplary educational environment. Mrs. Mikesell spoke about Ms. Susan Howey who was recently informed that she is the 2d place winner for the Henry Ford Teacher Innovation award. And finally, she asked the Elementary, Middle and High School staff to stand and be recognized.

### **IV. PUBLIC COMMENTS ON AGENDA ACTION ITEMS FOR May 23, 2016.**

Laura Mikesell, Grosse Pointe - GPEA President and resident. The Grosse Pointe staff has taken two pay cuts in two years, are paying 20% of health care and significant amounts to our retirement. The GPEA has presented a proposal for non-resident staff's children to attend GP schools. It is a win/win proposal for the District. She is asking the Board of Education to vote yes on Policy 5111.

Cathy Leverenz, Grosse Pointe Park - President of the Family Center. She is proud to say that they are celebrating their fifteenth year of service. Thank you to the Grosse Pointe Schools for partnering with the Family Center. We have strong commitment and strive for an enriching committee.

Beth Rainbolt – She and others will be highly affected by decisions this evening or in the near future. Her family has benefited significantly from the infant and toddler programs. Pay cuts and tuition increases will deeply impact her family financially as well as many other families within the district. Decisions this evening do not fit our Strategic Plan.

Michelle Senakiewich, Grosse Pointe Park – Moved to Grosse Pointe for the schools. There is a need for the Infant and Toddler classes. The children in these programs are the future of this community.

Melissa Graves, Grosse Pointe Farms – Moved here from Dearborn and it is the school district that brought them here. There was a huge void in the District until Grosse Pointe started offering the classes. It would be a shame if the tuition is raised that makes it impossible for families to afford.

Joan Dindoffer, Grosse Pointe Park – She is concerned about the proposed revision to Policy 5111. This is a disincentive for young families to purchase homes in Grosse Pointe. She is also concerned about the fairness to our resident students as well as the students who will be enrolling.

Tom Jakubiec, Grosse Pointe Woods – Like many parents in the school district, I am actively involved with my children's education. He was surprised when reading the Grosse Pointe Newspaper on Friday evening to see that the GP School was considering a change in Policy 5111.

George McMullen, Grosse Pointe Woods – Comments this evening are in reference to Changes to Policy 5111 and Item L, Approval of the Modified Formula Contract Implementation. As employees, they have passed a very thorough process to confirm that we truly have the best of the best employees to care for our District. Further, the employees have sacrificed benefits in recent contracts. As Item #L has been taken off the agenda, he wanted to let Dr. Niehaus know that his comments were perfect.

Diane Karabetsos, Grosse Pointe Woods – She commented on Policy 5111. She has done some research in the last couple of weeks and called the Assistant Superintendents of different Districts, every one of them say their programs run at a loss. She is a taxpayer and she would like the Board to pay special attention to the budget. The infant program runs at a loss.

Mark Davey, Grosse Pointe Farms – He learned of Policy 5111 at a Round Table and less than a month, we are here to vote on it. As a tax payer, very concerned about this Policy if it passes. The District did not survey the people in the community.

Matthew Kotes, St. Clair Shores – Current teacher with GPP Schools and coach. 100% in favor of Policy 5111 and would love to bring his children to the Grosse Pointe schools. Other Districts offer this with no additional fees. I hope to eventually move here.

Alex Gulyas, Grosse Pointe Farms – Resident and teacher at Parcels. She expressed her gratitude for the Board Members and all that they do. She feels that Board Members have worked hard to right the ship. She feels that allowing Non-Resident teachers to bring their children to the district would only improve trust and moral. Policy 5111 would be a win/win.

John Shook, Grosse Pointe Farms – After speaking with almost a hundred family and neighbors, he is appalled at the malarkey that is going on. It is wrong to open up enrollment to non-resident employees.

Bruce Hubbell, Grosse Pointe Park – He feels that opening enrollment to non-resident teachers is going to be a slippery slope. I am opposed to Policy 5111.

Carla Palffy, Grosse Pointe Park – As a resident, parent and counselor in the District, she wanted to thank the Board who have supported our endeavors over the years. She also thanked the Board under the direction of President Gafa for thinking outside of the box and coming up with Policy 5111. It is a wonderful opportunity and firmly believes this is a win/win opportunity.

Melissa Currier, Grosse Pointe Farms - She is a resident, parent and teacher and is in support of Policy 5111.

Kelly Boll, Grosse Pointe Park – She is speaking from the Taxpayers corner. She feels there are issues with Policy 5111. Information on the faq page is insufficient. She believes that the Policy needs to be rewritten to explain what the policy will be in future years. She stated that the Board has the opportunity to trigger a contract clause that would save the District half a million dollars next year.

Quinn Smith, Grosse Pointe Woods – He feels that it is a tragic statement when people say the Board is here to represent the tax payers. You are really here to represent the students.

John Lesha, Grosse Pointe Shores – At the May 9<sup>th</sup> Town Hall meeting he heard the Board say that Policy 5111 is a way the District can show their appreciation to the Teachers. He does not feel that allowing non-resident employees to bring their students to Grosse Pointe Schools is the appropriate thing to do.

Alexa McConaghy, Grosse Pointe Woods – She objects to Item #L that was placed on the agenda at the last allowable time. This does nothing to improve the relationship between the school board and its employees.

Blerta Spiro, Grosse Pointe Park – She has moved to the District to enroll her child at Barnes. A Board member has said that the program is underpriced and she has done her own comparisons and does not feel that the program is underpriced and should not be compared to certain private programs.

Mickey Shield, Grosse Pointe Park – She really appreciated the opinions expressed here this evening. She reminded the Board that a year and a half ago the District came to the community asking for 50 million dollars, with the community rejecting this. What kind of business are you running? It is your fiduciary responsibility to generate revenue.

Kathleen Forster, Grosse Pointe – It was refreshing to hear the teachers this evening. Why not offer Policy 5111 to non-resident employees but ask them to make up the difference. This is not fair to the resident employees who pay their taxes.

Mike Rennell, St. Clair Shores – He is the President Elect of the GPEA and teacher in the district. He would like to address the Board on two items. We are the only district to not offer Non-Resident Teacher students to attend. This is a great way to attract young families. This is a revenue enhancement to the District. Second item to comment on is the Resolution to Implement the Modified Formula to reduce the pay of every staff member. Staff has seen a reduction in their pay by 20% for the mere fact of having 10% fund equity.

Lisa Bouda, Grosse Pointe Woods – Science Teacher at Grosse Pointe South. Teachers have made many sacrifices for the last several years. We do it for the kids; it is the right thing to do.

Pat Zens, Grosse Pointe Park – 30 year resident and employee. The District is not the same District it was when she started to work here. In the Clerical Unit, we have not had a pay increase in over a decade. They have worked with pride and dedication. Are you making and living on the same net salary that you earned in 2006.

Mike Gulyas, Grosse Pointe Farms – Thank you to the Board Members, what you do is sometimes a thankless job. The tactic of the way to decrease the Teachers pay and thrust into the forefront is at the least disappointing and at the most malicious and destructive. Teachers are the most valuable assets in the District.

David Martin, Grosse Pointe Farms – As a teacher in the District and a parent, he strongly urges the Board to not cut pay. Student needs are best served by passionate teachers. There is a teacher shortage coming.

Elizabeth Meier, Grosse Pointe Woods – She recently bought her first house in Grosse Pointe Woods last summer because it is a solid investment and great schools. After reviewing some numbers that had been posted on a blog and saying the district was headed for collapse, she did her own numbers and is no longer concerned. Based on her figures, she sees nothing that would warrant a pay cut, as there has been steady increase in Fund Equity.

Chris Geerer, Vice President of the GPEA – Some Board Members have done everything in their power to grow and protect the Fund Equity. It is upsetting this evening to see Item #L to implement cuts in the contracts. Adjustments and pay in the current contracts will only hurt the morale of the employees. She thanked the current Board for working so hard to repair the damage done by the previous Board. The Staff truly appreciates the hard work and you are making a difference.

Kim VanGorder, Eastpointe – I am the President of the Classroom Assistants and Hall Monitors. She addressed the Agenda Action Item #L. It says that the Staff voted overwhelming to accept the original formula and its provisions. While bargaining our Group overwhelming did not want this in our contract. However they were advised without the formula, there would be no contract. Our group took the largest cut of 11%. Many are now working two and three jobs to make ends meet.

Jennifer Munson, Grosse Pointe Park – First, thank you for all of your service to the Grosse Pointe Public Schools. She would like to express her full support for Policy 5111. The extraordinary teachers are the backbone of our community. This measure not only provides a much needed morale boost, improves recruitment, brings in additional revenue and increases enrollment, it truly is a win/win for the District.

Kristen Fellows, Grosse Pointe Woods – A teacher at Monteith and resident of Grosse Pointe. Asking that you vote no on Item #L, pay cuts. Another pay cut would seriously affect retirement and quality of life. We are the cornerstone of this community. We are not getting rich doing what we do, we do it for the children. Please vote no on pay cuts for all employees.

Todd McConaghy, Grosse Pointe Woods – He received a late notice of the proposal of wage cuts. As a parent, resident and Elected City Official, I strongly encourage you to reconsider any wage cuts for teachers.

Jackie Benner, Grosse Pointe Woods – She is here to talk about Barnes. She currently has two students in Barnes and is on the waiting list for a third because non-resident students are in the class. Second item is the increase. She stated that she will not be able to continue working because she will not be able to afford the infant and toddler programs.

Mitchell Early, Grosse Pointe – He is speaking today regarding the infant and toddler programs at Barnes. I take issue with the way the cost increase was presented. He is asking that these two items be tabled to give people an opportunity to research.

Will Broman, Grosse Pointe Woods – Many teachers have helped him get to the place he is today. He knows that the Board has to make tough decisions, but he asks that you find the money from somewhere else because the teachers that he has had have had a tremendous influence on him.

Trustee Gafa thanked everyone that has spoken this evening and although she doesn't agree with all the comments, she appreciates the way they were given.

**V. AGENDA ACTION ITEMS FOR MAY 23, 2016**

**A. Approval of Human Resources Report for May 23, 2016.**

**It was Moved by:** Trustee Weertz

**Supported by:** Trustee Roeske

Dr. Dean mentioned that there were a couple of last minute retirements. A replacement search for the Principal of Brownell will begin after the posting closes on Friday.

**THAT the Board approve the Human Resources Report for May 23, 2016.**

**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 April 25, Regular/Town Hall Meeting Minutes of May 9 and May 12, 2016.**

**It was Moved by:** Trustee Pangborn

**Supported by:** Trustee Weertz

**THAT the Board approve the Regular Meeting Minutes of April 25, 2016, Regular/Town Hall Meeting Minutes of May 9 and May 12, 2016.**

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

**Nays:** None

**Motion carried by a 7 - 0 vote.**

**C. Approval of Resolution Recognizing Retirees**

**It was Moved by:** Trustee Roeske

**Supported by:** Trustee Valente

Dr. Dean read the list of Retirements.

**THAT the Board approve the Resolution of Recognizing Retirees**

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

**Nays:** None

**Motion carried by a 7 - 0 vote.**

**D. Approval of Full Circle Lease**

**It was Moved by:** Trustee Weertz

**Supported by:** Trustee Summerfield

Mr. Fenton says some minor changes made to the contract based on previous suggestions by the Board.

**THAT the Board approve the Full Circle Lease**

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

**Nays:** None

**Motion carried by a 7- 0 vote.**

**E. Approval of Grosse Pointe Education Association (GPEA) Lease**

**It was Moved by:** Trustee Summerfield

**Supported by:** Trustee Roeske

Mr. Fenton says again that this had some very minor changes requested at the previous Board Meeting. This space is at Barnes and the lease is for their offices.

**THAT the Board approve the Grosse Pointe Education Association (GPEA) Lease**

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

**Nays:** None

**Motion carried by a 7 - 0 vote.**

**F. Approval of the Family Center Lease**

**It was Moved by:** Trustee Weertz

**Supported by:** Trustee Pangborn

Mr. Fenton explained that the Family Center Lease is the same and the GPFPE Lease. They continue to raise a substantial amount of money for the District and the Programs the Family Center has for the community. Therefore there is no charge for the lease. The Family Center offices are located at Barnes.

**THAT the Board approve the Family Center Lease**

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

**Nays:** None

**Motion carried by a 7 - 0 vote.**

**G. Approval of Grosse Pointe Education for Public Education (GPFPE) Lease**

**It was Moved by:** Trustee Roeske

**Supported by:** Trustee Pangborn

Nothing has changed with the Lease.

**THAT the Board approve the Grosse Pointe Education for Public Education (GPFPE) Lease**

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

**Nays:** None

**Motion carried by a 7 - 0 vote.**

**H. Approval of Transportation Bids**

Mr. Fenton has asked to table the Transportation Bids. Further information needs to be looked at before a vote can be done as there may be some changes to the bids.

**It was Moved by:** Trustee Summerfield

**Supported by:** Trustee Pangborn

**THAT the Board approve the motion to table the Transportation Bids.**

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

**Nays:** None

**Motion carried by a 7 - 0 vote.**

**I Approval of Bids**

**1. Richard Floor**

**It was Moved by:** Trustee Weertz

**Supported by:** Trustee Summerfield

The Bid has been reviewed previously. We are asking that the Board approve the low bidder for the Richard Floor from Kuhn Specialty for \$31,900.

**THAT the Board approve the Bid for the Richard Floor**

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

**Nays:** None

**Motion carried by a 7 - 0 vote.**

**2. Grosse Pointe North Stage Floor**

**It was Moved by:** Trustee Valente

**Supported by:** Trustee Pangborn

Mr. Fenton asked that the Board approve the low bid of \$79,980 from North American Construction. Information has previously been discussed. Trustee Ismail asked about the timeline for the orchestra pit. Mr. Fenton explained that this is a separate item and that we are looking at a couple of options.

**THAT the Board approve the Bid for the Grosse Pointe North Stage Floor**

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

**Nays:** None

**Motion carried by a 7 - 0 vote.**

**3. Parcels Roof**

**It was Moved by:** Trustee Pangborn

**Supported by:** Trustee Roeske

Tri Star Roofing and Sheet Metal is the low bid of \$93,819.00 per Mr. Fenton. Trustee Ismail asked about the number of weeks it will take to complete this project. Mr. Fenton responded that the project will begin June 1<sup>st</sup> and will take a while. Mr Fenton says that it will be done in time for school to start in September.

**That the Board approve the bid for the Parcels Roof**

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

**Nays:** None

**Motion carried by a 7 - 0 vote.**

**J. Approval of Board Policies**

**1. Policy 8330 – Student Records**

**It was Moved by:** Trustee Valente

**Supported by:** Trustee Weertz

Trustee Roeske says that after this was reviewed by the Board, changes have been made to the information that must be reported to the Armed Services to comply with current law.

**THAT the Board approve Policy 8330 – Student Records**

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

**Nays:** None



**Motion carried by a 7 - 0 vote.**

**2. Approval of Policy 5111 - Enrollment**

**It was Moved by:** Trustee Summerfield

**Supported by:** Trustee Weertz

Trustee Roeske provide information about the timeline of this Policy. Changes were made to the wording based on Board comments. Clarification was provided to the Board regarding Resident and Non-Resident student transfers.

Trustee Pangborn made a motion to table the Approval for time to gather additional information regarding the financials and too many unanswered questions.

**THAT the Board Table the Approval of Policy 5111 – Enrollment for further discussion**

**It was Moved by:** Trustee Pangborn

**Supported by:** Trustee Ismail

Trustee Roeske says that this is not a school of choice, as some think. Trustee Summerfield advised that the District Attorney has been consulted.

**Ayes:** Trustees Ismail and Pangborn

**Nays:** Trustees Gafa, Roeske, Summerfield, Valente and Weertz

**Motion failed by a 2-5 vote.**

Trustee Gafa says that she spoke with the District's Attorney recently to verify if there are any laws that would prohibit the District from passing Policy 5111. Trustee Pangborn feels they are making a mistake by passing this Policy at this time. Trustee Weertz does not feel the details have been rushed. She has listened to her neighbors and friends and feels that she is ready to vote on this. She has heard what they have to say. This is a win/win decision and what is best for our schools. Trustee Roeske stated that this was brought to the Board on April 25<sup>th</sup> for a first read and many discussions have taken place. Trustee Ismail withdrew his support for the tabling. This issue does need to move forward. Trustee Summerfield says that the Board has talked about Fund Equity since he has been on the Board. This is not going to cure our Fund Equity woes; it is one way to tell the staff that we appreciate what they do. Trustee Valente says this was not a revenue item for her. It is a benefit for an employee and a win/win. Trustee Gafa says this will not lead to school of choice. We are one GP and we take care of the children in this District. To say that any employee's children will bring down our test scores is incorrect. She has thought long and hard and will support this proposal.

**THAT the Board approve Policy 5111 - Enrollment**

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

**Nays:** Trustees Ismail and Pangborn,

**Motion carried by a 5-2 vote.**

**K. Approval of G.A.A.A. #3**

**It was Moved by:** Trustee Summerfield

**Supported by:** Trustee Pangborn

Deputy Superintendent Fenton says this is our third adjustment. Some minor changes were made and he anticipates a G.A.A.A. #4 for the second meeting in June.

**THAT the Board approve the G.A.A.A. #3**

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

**Nays:** None

**Motion carried by a 7- 0 vote.**

**L. Approval of GPPSS 2015-16 Modified Formula Contract Implementation**

**This Motion has been withdrawn**

**Items M and N have been moved to VII. Information and Discussion**

**M. Approval of Infant Program Rate Adjustment per Budget Parameters**

**N. Approval of Toddler Program Rate Adjustment per Budget Parameters**

**VI. Agenda Action Items for June 13, 2016**

**A. Approval of Regular Meeting Minutes of May 23, 2016**

**VII. INFORMATION AND DISCUSSION**

**A. Monthly Financials**

Deputy Superintendent Fenton has nothing to add other than we are on schedule to hit the 7.7 million Fund Equity based on the adjustment this evening.

**Health Care Reports**

Deputy Superintendent Dean provided copies of the current health information. He states that it has been a fairly average month. The District started the TeleDoc system and has exceeded the usage. It was designed to be cost neutral and actually turned out to be a cost benefit for the District.

**B. Budget Development Update**

An updated budget model utility, year- end statement, general appropriations act #4 will be presented to the Board as part of the June, 2016 meetings.

**C. 2016-17 Elementary Program of Studies**

Mr. Howell says that the Elementary Program of Studies gets reviewed each year. There are no major changes. They did update the vision/mission statement. EPLC has approved the changes. Young 5's has been added and all-day kindergarten information has been removed, as it is part of the curriculum program now.

**D and E. Infant and Toddler Program Rate Adjustment per Budget Parameters**

Trustee Ismail reminded the Board that one of our parameters is that programs be self-funded. He says that there is a situation where the infant and toddler programs are running at a substantial negative flow to the system. The response was that the PreK program covers that. He feels there is a philosophical problem with this. Parents in one program shouldn't have to subsidize other programs. Superintendent Niehaus suggested that Trustee Ismail meet

with administrators to get some solid numbers and then bring that to the table at the next Board of Education meeting. Trustee Summerfield agreed that a review of the numbers should be done. Trustee Pangborn would like to see each program's number individually. Mr. Howell says that these numbers were provided in November, 2015. Trustee Roeske mentioned that the Advisory Group of 30 to 40 people have had this discussion of raising the rates and doing so incrementally over the next three years. To change the rates after people have already signed up would be unfair. Trustee Gafa is in full support of these programs and it is very important, especially to working parents that these programs continue without pricing people out of it.

### **VIII. FUTURE MEETINGS**

- A. Regular Meeting of the Board, June 13, 2016, 7:00 p.m., **North High School Library, 707 Vernier**
- B. Regular Meeting of the Board, June 27, 2016, 7:00 p.m., Brownell MultiPurpose Room, 260 Chalfonte
- C. Regular Meeting of the Board, July 11, 2016, 7:00 p.m., Brownell MultiPurpose Room, 260 Chalfonte

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

Blerta Spiro, Grosse Pointe Park – When doing a case study on the Infant and Toddler Program, it would be important to keep in mind that it is a continuum.

Michelle Senakiewich, Grosse Pointe Park – As a full-time working mother, she sees the benefit in expanding the infant and toddler programs. If Grosse Pointe does not have the program available for her, she will move to a district that can provide this. There are a lot of working mothers in this District and it would be worthwhile to expand.

### **X. OTHER COMMENTS FROM BOARD MEMBERS AND SUPERINTENDENT**

Trustee Ismail apologized to Mr. Howell regarding the spread sheets, no idea there are multiple sections of each class. He felt there was a lot of angst about tying up some loose ends of the contracts. Glad that Dr. Niehaus is getting the letters of understanding done. He apologized that he likes things in order and was concerned that there would be a pay cut and that is why he asked for this resolution. Quite a few events coming up in the schools, great things are happening here.

Trustee Pangborn wanted to caution the community regarding social media and how things are traveling, the amount of untruths and not knowing the facts. Please get the facts before a lot of angst is caused. Also, she is glad that the letters of understanding are being done and that no one on this Board has voted for a pay cut. Things were taken out of context.

Trustee Valente stated that the letter Dr. Niehaus read is all information she was aware of. She felt that Item #L was badly written. No idea after reading it several times what was being requested. She cautioned her fellow Board members when coming to meetings that they also have their facts straight. Policy 5111, she is a yes on that, it is the right thing to do.

Trustee Summerfield mentioned that communication is critical. There have been lots of comments about Policy 5111 and he appreciates everyone coming out this evening. He feels that we are on a good path.

Trustee Roeske, first wanted to thank the Grosse Pointe Foundation for Public Education for their \$74,000 + grants. He feels very fortunate that we have them in our community. He agreed with Trustee Ismail and that it is a very busy month and he gave a shout out to Grosse Pointe South Girls Lacrosse Team that his daughter is a part of, who is playing in the Regional Games this week.

Trustee Weertz commended all the people who came out tonight. We had a difficult decision this evening and it was good to hear all of the comments that were pro and con. Makes her proud that they were able to get through this and sorry for the angst on the staff thinking that they were going to get a pay cut.

Superintendent Niehaus stated that last week he was at both High Schools Honor Programs and if you have ever been, than you understand the talent that we have at both high schools. Our high schools are performing equally and are outstanding by getting into our two flagship Universities. Both Proms have taken place and went well. Thank you to the Principals, teachers and sponsors that have put in long week-ends to make the Prom a success. A few schools remain for the evacuation process, but the schools that have completed this process have gone very well. He also thanked the Grosse Pointe Foundation for all that they do.

President Gafa thanked the Grosse Pointe Foundation for Public Education for all that they do. \$74,000 plus is a phenomenal amount of money. She congratulated Mrs. Howey's class, not only did they do a fabulous job by leading the Pledge of Allegiance they won the Caught In the Act award. She also congratulated the two students who won the FCCLA, the gold. We have these wonderful students who do wonderful things. She wanted to also comment about the social media like Mrs. Pangborn and remind the Board that is it their duty as a Board Member to do and present as many facts as they can to this community. She also agreed with Mrs. Valente when she read Proposal #L, referencing the 14-15 audit, she felt that was to cut the employees pay.

#### **X. ADJOURNMENT**

President Gafa adjourned the meeting at: 11:04 p.m.

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Cindy Pangborn, Board Secretary