



Grosse Pointe Board of Education
Minutes of Conference Meeting, October 3, 2005
Wicking Library, South High School
11 Grosse Pointe Blvd., Grosse Pointe Farms, MI 48236

ORDER OF BUSINESS – 8:00 P.M.

I. Call To Order/Pledge of Allegiance/Roll Call

President Broderick called the meeting to order at 8:10 p.m.

Present: Trustees Broderick, Dindoffer, Ismail, Kennedy, Kosinski
Vreede and Walsh

Also Present: Superintendent Klein, Assistant Superintendent Fenton

The pledge of allegiance was led by Trustee Kosinski.

II. Superintendent's Report

Update on Re-registration and Enrollment

Mr. Fenton reported that on the official fall count date, September 28, 2005, enrollment was 8,899, a decrease of 87 students from 2004-2005. Elementary enrollment declined by 63 students, middle school declined by 40 students, and special education declined by 8 students. The high school enrollment increased by 24 students. The bulk of the decrease in students is in the kindergarten (56) and 6th grade (23).

Mr. Fenton continued with an update on the re-registration process which showed that 99.6% of 5,178 families re-registered, meeting the guidelines. Only 20 families on file did not re-register. These families either moved or are now attending other schools. There are 489 families new to the school district. Of those families, 543, or 10.5%, lease property. Follow-up procedures have been established to check on expired leases. Four homeless students have been enrolled due to Hurricane Katrina. Ten students previously identified as questionable did not re-enroll. Two families were removed after re-registration but prior to the start of school due to false statements on documents. Twenty-eight families of the 153 investigated in 2004-2005 re-registered at new addresses.

Sean McNamara has been awarded the state level award for outstanding Earth Science Teacher of the year.

College Night begins at North High School at 6:30 p.m. on October 5, 2005 and provides a good introduction to college programs for parents and students.

Dr. Klein also noted that the Governor recently signed legislation requiring school to start for students after Labor Day.

The Detroit Free Press published Critical Links to Citizenship developed by Jeannie Johnson Brousseau, Social Studies curriculum specialist.

Next month National Merit Scholarship as well as commended student semi-finalists will be invited to the first board meeting in November for recognition.

III. Tentative Agenda for the Regular Board Meeting of October 10, 2005

A. Human Resources Report

The Human Resources Report highlighted the appointments of six instructional staff members, and the resignations of one instructional staff member, one plant/cafeteria staff member and one technology staff member.

Mr. Lobert also noted the teacher F.T.E. for 2005-2006 is 607.4, an increase of 3.5 from last year. That increase includes the 12.2 F.T.E. increased allocation for special education already budgeted for this year.

B. Business Items: Accounts Payable

The business items were presented for Board approval. Any questions regarding the business items and accounts payable may be directed to Mr. Fenton's office or to Mrs. Dindoffer, Board Treasurer.

C Approval of Regular Meeting Minutes of September 6 and 12, 2005, and Work Session Minutes of September 7, 2005

The minutes of the Conference Meeting of September 6, 2005, Regular Meeting of September 12, 2005 and work session minutes of September 7, 2005 are presented for approval. Any questions regarding the minutes may be directed to the Superintendent's Office or Mrs. Kennedy, Board Secretary.

The minutes of the Special Meeting of September 29, 2005 have also been added to the list of meeting minutes for approval.

D. Approval of Bids

1. Support Service Facility

The bid for a support services and maintenance facility includes construction of a 5-bay vehicle facility. The block and brick building, 4,783 sq. ft., will be next to the rear parking lot at Parcels along Sunningdale. The central maintenance department is currently housed in the basement at South and needs to vacate that premises before the pool construction begins at South High School. This facility will house 50% of the central maintenance staff.

The City of Grosse Pointe Woods and Parcels administration have been consulted in the planning of this facility. It was discovered that the 15 to 20 feet of fill sand found in the soil borings will not support the footing without an unacceptable amount of settlement. The design includes steel helical piers to be drilled down 30 feet deep to provide necessary bearing capacity. Bernco, the low bidder, originally sub-bid approximately \$65,000 for this extra work, which was not included in the original estimate because its need was not known until the soil borings were done.

The project will be funded from the Sinking Fund.

The Board is asked to award the bid for the new maintenance facility to Bernco, Inc. for \$552,420.

E. Approval of Policy DFG – Fees, Payments and Rentals

The Board Policy Sub-Committee, Mrs. Dindoffer (chair), Mrs. Kennedy and Mr. Broderick reviewed Policy DFG and made revisions in the section describing fees for providing copies of public records pursuant to the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA).

The Board is asked to approve Policy DFG – Fees, Payments and Rentals as presented.

F. Approval of Appointment of Co-Chairs for the Human Sexuality Advisory Board

In June 2004, the Michigan legislature changed some provisions of the School Code relating to human sexuality instruction. The main changes had to do with the composition and procedures for the sex education advisory boards. The new law provided that the advisory board must include parents of children attending the district's schools, pupils in the district's schools, educators, local clergy and

community health professionals. It further provided that at least half of the members must be district parents. Grosse Pointe's Human Sexuality Advisory Board had encompassed all of the required categories of membership however, since there were many community representatives, parents were not quite half the membership. We have now reconstituted the Advisory Board to conform to the new law.

One of the new provisions of the Michigan School Code is that two co-chairs must be appointed by the school board to chair the sex education advisory committee. One of the co-chairs must be a parent of a child attending a district school. The educator asked to co-chair the Advisory board is Dr. Michael Dib, Principal of Brownell Middle School; the parent, Dr. Debra Wright. Dr. Wright is a physician, a parent of a South graduate, and has children at Maire and Pierce.

The Board is asked to approve the appointment of Dr. Dib and Dr. Wright as co-chairs of the Human Sexuality Advisory Board.

G. Approval of Consultant Fees for Dr. Roger McCaig

Dr. Roger McCaig is the former Director of Evaluation and Research for the Grosse Pointe Public School System. In that capacity Dr. McCaig was among the first in the nation to develop a comprehensive writing assessment program for students in grades 1-9. From 1980-92 his work on children's writing in the district propelled the district to a position of pre-eminence in assessing the writing skills of the district's students and providing staff members the tools – both analytic and instructional – to improve student writing.

As part of the curriculum study to assess and improve the language arts curriculum, Dr. McCaig was asked to review the district's writing program.

Dr. McCaig's work is a major step forward in the continuing improvement of the district's language arts program. He will have devoted over 400 hours of billable time to the district. By mutual agreement his total fee for services rendered this year will not exceed \$28,880. A large portion of that amount (\$15,185) has been funded through the Title II grant. The remainder has already been budgeted through the Department of Curriculum, Assessment and Instruction.

The Board is asked to approve the reimbursement for consultant fees to Dr. McCaig, not to exceed \$28,880 for the 2005-2006 school year.

President Broderick suggested including Items A) Human Resources Report; B) Business Items; C) Meeting Minutes (with the inclusion of the Special Meeting Minutes of September 29, 2005 and correction to the Minutes of September 6, 2005); D) Approval of Bid – Support Services Facility; E) Approval of Policy

DFG; F) Approval of Appointment of Co-Chair for the Human Sexuality Advisory Board; and G) Approval of Consultant Fees for Dr. Roger McCaig.

IV. Items for Information and Discussion for October 10, 2005

A. Technology Management Services Update

B. Revenue Enhancement Committee Update

C. Budget Committee Update

D. Project Update

E. Summer Programs Update

V. Future Meetings

A Board Work Session will be held on Monday, October 10, 2005 at 6:00 p.m. in Room 154 of South High School followed by a Regular Meeting of the Board at 8:00 p.m. in Wicking Library at South High School, 11 Grosse Pointe Blvd., Grosse Pointe Farms, Michigan.

President Broderick also announced an Audit Committee meeting, October 4, 2005 at 7:30 a.m.; a Project Oversight Committee Meeting on Thursday, October 6, 2005 at 7:30 a.m.; and a Policy Sub-Committee Meeting on Monday, October 10, 2005 at 8:30 a.m., all at the Administration Building on St. Clair.

VI. Other Comments from Board Members and Superintendent

Trustee Kennedy had no comment.

Trustee Dindoffer had no comment.

Trustee Ismail said that he was glad to see that the district was actively involving Dr. Roger McCaig as he has always been focused on academic excellence. He thanked him for his help.

Trustee Walsh said that it was nice to be part of the Defer Fall Family Festival and witness the level of integration between the business community and the school community. He noted that the cooperation was great and he congratulated their efforts.

Trustee Vreede referenced the Brownell Tin Can Auction and Tag Sale where families and friends worked together to make this a successful auction. She also wished the best of luck to students taking the MEAP tests this week.

Trustee Kosinski had no comment.

Dr. Klein noted that MEAP testing had begun. She also highlighted the Coffee and Conversation meeting this Wednesday, October 5, 2005 at 9:00 a.m. at the administration building. She thanked the League of Women Voters for presenting an outstanding forum on school finance on September 19th.

Dr. Klein mentioned Project Welcome Home, one of many projects to assist those displaced by the recent hurricane.

President Broderick also thanked the League of Women Voters for hosting the forum on school finance. He thanked Mrs. Dindoffer for her participation on the panel.

Mr. Broderick noted the North/South game on Friday night was an exciting football game.

VII. Meeting Open to the Public

Mrs. Liz Pamerleau, 272 Kerby, Grosse Pointe Farms, shared her thoughts on scheduling for elementary instrumental instruction in the south end of the district.

VIII. Adjournment

There being no further business, President Broderick adjourned the meeting at 9:10 p.m.

Board Secretary